

THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIX., No. 550. SHANGHAI, NOVEMBER 29, 1877. PRICE, Tls. 12 7/8 AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England, ...	Oct. 12	Hankow, ...	Nov. 24
San Francisco, ...	20	Yokohama, ...	20
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Tientsin, ...	24	Foochow, ...	18

Latest Mail dates in England, from China
Hongkong, ... Aug. 25 | Received 4th Oct. || Shanghai, ... | 19 | |

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 24th instant, Mrs. JOSEPH WELCH, Junior, of a daughter.
At Shanghai, on the 27th Nov., Mrs. K. M. YANKOWSKY, of a son.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer.		Thermometer.		Hygrometer.		WIND.		Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
	Obs.	Atmos.	Max.	Min.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Force.	Direction.	
Nov. 23	30.24	52.0	63.0	49.0	50.0	47.5	5	N.N.W. o.c.	..
24	30.23	52.0	54.0	51.0	52.0	50.0	2	„ o.c.	0.11
25	30.22	49.0	59.0	45.0	54.0	49.5	4	N. „	..
26	30.21	48.5	60.0	47.5	48.0	45.0	2	N. „	..
27	30.25	50.0	55.0	47.0	50.0	47.5	4	N.E. „	..
28	33.33	45.0	56.0	44.0	44.0	42.0	3	N. „	..
29	30.33	48.5	55.0	43.0	48.5	46.0	3	N.E. „	0.08

EXPLANATION.
Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

PRICE OF THE NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.—Per Annum, Tals 12; Six Months, Tals 6.50. Three Months, 3.50—all payable in advance. Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum; Subscriptions will be considered as renewed unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

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The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, NOV. 29, 1877.

THE course of events in England since the arrival of the present Chinese Embassy seems to denote an increasing ignorance with regard to China, and an increasing apathy with regard to the relations, mercantile and political, between Great Britain and the Far East. The high-sounding phrases with which the deputation of the Society of Friends opened its address to the Chinese Minister, were possibly suggested by a vein of thought not dissimilar from that of the Pharisee in the parable, who commenced his prayer with the memorable words, “God,

I thank thee that I am not as other men are.” But the Society of Friends, who possess some men of culture amongst them, might have been expected to know that H.E. Kwoh was well acquainted, through his knowledge of Buddhism, with the sentiments put forward as peculiarly Christian, and that even before the Buddhist propaganda in China, the native systems of Taoism and Confucianism had given utterance to sentences of precisely similar import. In fact, as far back as the time of Lao-tsze himself, the hollowiness of such sentiments had been proved, and men, while they regretted the waste of human life and the miseries of war, were still sadly convinced that strife was the natural state of mundane existence, and that as it had been at the beginning so it would be at the end. “I am not come to send peace on earth,” said the founder of Christianity, “but a sword.” Seeing the weakness of the position adopted by his interviewers, it is not to be wondered at that the Minister should have taken advantage of it in his reply, and have adroitly turned it to his own purposes. “To treat others as one would wish to be treated, to be loyal, and to exercise forbearance, are the guiding principles of all religions;” and on this text the Minister did not fail to found a lesson in political economy for the edification of a deputation which had shown itself so lamentably ignorant of the principles of religion generally. “You have spoken in ignorance of the religious teachings with which we have been imbued from our earliest days. We knew that your religion was good, and taught the moral duty of peace and good will; but your insular prejudices have prevented you from taking a wider and truer view of religion as an actuating motive. This it is our honour and privilege to point out to you; moreover, your ignorance on so important a topic is only an indication of your general want of appreciation of the affairs of the world. There is that Convention of Chefoo, in which the essence of mundane wisdom is concentrated, and which is moreover

in accordance with those principles of religion in which you, as we, believe. Even this is attempted to be set aside by certain merchants in Shanghai who raise a cry about *lekin*, as if the word *lekin* should be heard where vapid sentimentality is the ruling principle. No; do not let such harsh accents grate on our ears. We are all brethren. Let us turn to sentiment and ignore the practical, fit only for vulgar ears. But as for opium, that is the thing; only stop growing it in India, and what a lot of rice you'll have to feed your people; you'll get rid of famine, and—shouldn't you like it?—increase your trade with China." Perhaps even the Society of Friends has heard of the fable of the dog who, crossing the water with a bone in his mouth, let it drop to seize the reflection he saw beneath him. The game proposed by the Chinese Minister is suggestive of a similar fate. Indian and Chinese trade are largely affected by the opium import. The Society of Friends, in its anxiety to grasp the image presented by the Minister, would gladly let fall the substantial bone it is now carrying across the stream.—One word more; has it ever struck the Society that the least economical crop that a land can grow, is food? Have they not heard of the Irish famine of 1847? And are they not aware that India just now is suffering the extreme of famine on account of the dependence of its people on their own soil for sustenance? Has it yet to learn that the reserve of money accumulating from an export trade in the products of the ground, is like the reserve of water stored up in an uncertain climate, which can be applied, when the time of distress comes, to water the dry and thirsty land? More than she is aware, the stability of China is kept up by her exports of tea and silk. Fortunately for the Empire, these staples are grown in districts readily accessible from the sea. Other provinces have their own productions, which likewise would meet a ready sale outside the Empire, but the oppressive imposts concealed under the name of *lekin*, so unpleasant to Kwoh's ears, effectually forbid their gaining access to a market. Hence the people have not the money to exchange for the cheap cotton goods which the foreign merchants offer in vain to a naturally rich, but artificially moneyless nation. It may be interesting to the Society of Friends to learn that those districts where the people are in most affluence, are not those quarters to which foreign opium has never penetrated; but those regions where the

possibility of its entrance means likewise the possibility of the exchange of the natural productions of the soil for the more readily available article of money. The immediate neighbourhood of Shanghai does not produce nearly enough rice for the consumption of its inhabitants; yet Shanghai is never troubled with famine, notwithstanding that hundreds of square miles are devoted to the production of cotton, an article we have as yet not seen converted into human food. In fact, were the supporters of the deputation to seek out a spot in China where the effects of opium are less noticeable than elsewhere, they would find it within a radius of twenty miles round the foreign Settlements at Shanghai, where the import and use of the drug has been practically unshackled for the last twenty years.

Summary of News.

The English mail of the 12th October arrived Sunday, by the P. & O. str. *Thibet*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by the P. & O. str. *Gualior*.

Telegrams were received yesterday, to the effect that the French Chamber rejects the ministry formed by Macmahon; and that Russian papers propose the surrender of the whole Turkish fleet and the joint control by Turkey and Russia of the Dardanelles, as the basis of peace.—This looks as though mediatory negotiations may have been attempted, but we imagine Turkey is hardly likely as yet to make such a sacrifice.

The Municipal Council remark on the bad lighting of the Settlement, and call for a full report.—A new iron pontoon is to be constructed at the end of the Minhong road, *vice* the present wooden one, reported rotten and not worth repair.

The prospectus has been published of the new Chinese loan. As we announced some time ago, the Bonds will bear interest at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, and the price of issue will be £98. The money will have to be paid at the rate of 5s. 5d., and will be repayable of course in sterling. The Bonds will be redeemable at par within seven years, by 13 half-yearly drawings.

The Committee of the China Famine Relief Fund met on the 21st inst., and decided to open subscription papers in the hands of the various members, consisting of the Very Rev. Dean Butcher, Rev. Dr. Nelson, Rev. W. Muirhead, Messrs. Glover, Lemarchand, Wetmore, Bell, Forbes, Wood, Johnson, Gubbay, Hennequin and Hubbé. Contributions will be gladly received by these gentlemen in aid of the famine fund.

At a meeting of the members of the Club Concordia, it was resolved to give a Concert on the 7th proximo, in aid of the sufferers in the North, the proceeds of which are to be handed over to the "China Famine Relief Committee." A Committee has been appointed, consisting of Dr. Krauel, Dr. W. Gottburg, F. H. Pinckvoss, and G. Peters, Esqrs., who will circulate a subscription list.

A notice of the subscription of foreigners to the famine fund appeared a few days ago in the *Sin-pao*.—The Editor observed that, although it was only a drop in a bucket, yet it was valuable as a testimony of the cordial relations between Chinese and foreigners at this port.

The Secretary of the Shantung Famine Relief Fund has been requested to intimate, for the special information of those who subscribed to that fund in Taiwan in the month of July last, that their subscription was entered by mistake under the heading Tamsui. It is hoped that this notice will be sufficient to correct any misapprehension in regard to it.

The Asiatic Society's Museum, while rapidly becoming rich in point of specimens, is deficient in one very important respect. It has no appropriate library. Yet books on natural history are indispensable for the arrangement and identification of the specimens sent in; and it is rather too much to expect gentlemen who undertake the troublesome office of curator, to incur also the expense of providing themselves with books. It has been proposed, therefore, to acquire if possible the Scientific Library of the late Honorary Curator, Mr. J. P. Martin, which cost about \$700. But as the Museum Committee of course have no funds at their disposal to effect this purchase, they purpose inviting subscriptions from the community; and a list is, we understand, in course of circulation with this object.

On Monday, in the Supreme Court, before R. A. Mowat, Esq., Deputy Acting Judge, a case, "*Westernmark v. Longman*," came on for hearing. It was an ordinary suit, to recover \$119.56, balance of a running account for board and lodging, but it presented some unusual features. There were no counsel, but both the plaintiff's petition and the defendant's answer were drawn up in strictly legal form, and had been filed in the ordinary manner; and, further, the case was handled by both plaintiff and defendant—especially by the latter—in a style which showed either skilful prompting or a wonderfully intuitive perception of legal technicalities. If similar aptitude were to be frequently witnessed in the local law courts, "*Othello's* occupation (*videlicet*, counsel's) would be gone." Let us hope, however, that such acute pugnacity will not be of too frequent occurrence; though an independent fight of the kind, at considerate intervals, would perhaps be welcome, to relieve the dead level of monotony which has somehow recently prevailed. The case in question, of which we give a copious report elsewhere, ended in defendant beating himself (as most people do who are their own clients), and his Lordship ordered him to pay the debt by instalments of Tls. 10 per month, in which way plaintiff said he was willing to receive the money.

At the Police Court, Monday, before R. A. Mowat, Esq., a middle-aged man, named Edward Sunstream was charged with feloniously cutting and wounding George Wiles, with intent, &c. Both men are seamen of the *Ethiopian*, and with some others of the crew had been ashore on Sunday last from

about two o'clock. Before leaving the ship Sunstream was going to use some hair-oil belonging to Wiles, who, it seems, checked him at the time, but later on told him he could use the hair oil when he liked. This permission, was, it is said, given in a snarling manner, and led to what sailors term "a growl" (hardly amounting to a quarrel) between the two men. They left the ship early in the afternoon, and with their shipmates returned on board shortly after six o'clock, taking with them a bottle of spirits. The story of the hair-oil was a subject of joke "all round," as the witness examined in Court expressed it, and after the crew had had their tea in the fore-castle, they all took a drink out of the bottle and went on with their fun. Ultimately, Sunstream pushed Wiles, who pushed back in return. Both then closed, and gripped each other, Wiles being forced backwards on a chest. A very short time elapsed, when Wiles called out that his throat was cut. Holloway, another seaman, ran and separated the men, and took Wiles into the cabin, bleeding from the throat. He was seen as soon after as possible by Dr. Henderson, who found that a wound about two inches long and of some depth in one place, near the carotid artery, had been inflicted; Wiles, therefore, probably narrowly escaped a fatal injury. Sunstream, who had remained in the fore-castle, was given into custody.—In consequence of its being deemed unadvisable for Wiles, who appeared in Court with his throat bandaged, to speak, the Magistrate only took sufficient evidence to justify a remand.

Judgment was given yesterday at the United States Consulate-General, in the case of *Groom v. Jenkins*, which was a claim for Tls. 850, being rent of the premises on the French Bund, known as the Paou-fong Wharf and Godown. Defendant notified plaintiff on the 27th August that unless he obtained from him the leases of the premises in question on or before the 15th prox., he should hold the agreement regarding the same to be at an end, and three or four days later he sent plaintiff the keys of the premises, having given up possession. He maintained that he was justified in this proceeding, inasmuch as plaintiff had failed to give him the leases as he had agreed to do.—The Court held that defendant was a quarterly tenant, and that as such he was required by law to give forty-five days' notice, for which period he was ordered to pay the rent, amounting to \$579.80, being at the rate of Tls. 850 per quarter, together with the costs of the Court.

A false alarm of fire was rung from the French Police Station on Saturday forenoon, and at about the same time a telegraphic signal was sent to the English Central Police Station. Warned by previous experience, a second signal was awaited, which was not long in coming, and was almost immediately followed by a third. The alarm bell was therefore set clanging, and the fire companies began to get ready for action; but the alarm being almost as soon discovered to be a false one, messengers were sent round to the different engine stations to prevent the men turning out. It was afterwards ascertained

that a French policeman, entertaining a friend by showing him the different modes of telegraphic communication, and being probably ignorant of the effect of "completing the circuit," pressed the knob of the instrument, and thus sent the signal of alarm to the different rendezvous three times in succession.

On Wednesday night last, a capture of native gamblers and seizure of their effects was made by Mr. Wilson and a party of Police, at two houses in an alley in the Wuhu-road. The houses are situated on both sides the alley, and are some distance apart. Great caution had therefore to be exercised in approaching them, especially as the Police had to be divided into two bodies, in order to avoid alarming the scouts who are always on the watch at all the approaches to gambling houses. The discovery of these gamblers in their retired haunt was due to the acumen of a native sergeant, who, before making known his "find" to his superiors, satisfied himself that his suspicions were correct by disguising himself and joining in the games for a few nights, until he thought opportunity offered for making a complete seizure at both houses at the same time. That opportunity seemed to present itself on Wednesday night, and Mr. Wilson, separating his force into two divisions, made a simultaneous raid on both houses. The usual stampede took place, the gamblers in their haste to escape, tearing down partitions, breaking out windows and doors, and in some instances climbing up to and along roofs. The chief headman escaped in this way for the time, but was captured on Thursday. Three other headmen, a watchman, and twenty others were captured on the spot; and in addition to these, four women, wives of the headmen, were found in the houses, evidently participants in the illegal proceedings. This is the first time in Shanghai that women have been found so occupied. In the pockets of one was found a box of dice, and all were in possession of money and other valuables (some of which had doubtless been pledged for cash to gamble with). One man was found concealed under a large heap of straw in one of the rooms, and, when dragged out by his feet, pretended to have been fast asleep and that he knew nothing of where he was. A number of dollars and 28,000 cash, with a quantity of other property, were seized on the premises. The twenty-five men and four women were taken before the Mixed Court Friday, and two of the chief headmen were fined \$200 each; two subordinate headmen, \$100 each; twenty others \$1 each, in default a week's imprisonment in the Municipal prison; the watchman, being too poor to pay a fine, was sentenced to seven days' cangue; the women were dismissed, it being considered they had been punished enough by the confiscation of their property.—The Magistrate ordered that the headmen's fines, \$600, should be given to the Famine Relief Fund, and that the dollars and cash found on the two premises, together with the proceeds of the sale of all the property seized, should be presented to the Shantung road hospital.

The Chinese had a rumour yesterday, to the effect that all the native landowners on

the line of the Woosung Railway, who had sold land to the late Railway Company for the formation of the line, had received intimation from the Taotai that they would be required to purchase back their land from him, at the same price they had been paid for it.

A number of newly-planted trees on the Bubbling Well-road having been willfully destroyed on the night of the 21st instant, the Municipal Council offer a reward of \$100 for information that will lead to the discovery of the offenders.

As instancing the hitherto unusual mildness of the season, it may be mentioned that some of the rose trees in the Public Garden, as well as in several private gardens, have not only burst into full leaf, but have blossomed a second time as plentifully as in their proper season—the buds being very firm and lacking little if anything in either scent or colour; and this notwithstanding the fact that the branches and sprays had been cut and trimmed as customary at the commencement of the winter.—On the other hand, some species have shown no sign of blossoming. This is a study for floriculturists.

We learn that the purchase of the gigantic compendium of Chinese literature, ancient and modern, for which it was reported some months ago that the authorities of the British Museum were in treaty, has been lately effected on their behalf at Peking by Mr. Mayers, Chinese Secretary of Her Majesty's Legation. This extraordinary compilation was prepared, as is generally known, under the auspices of the Emperor Kang Hi, and was printed with a font of moveable type cast for the purpose under the direction of the Jesuit Missionaries, the work being finally issued in A.D. 1725-1726, in the ensuing reign. The negotiation for the purchase now completed has, with sundry interruptions, lasted for upwards of a year; and the collection, consisting of between five and six thousand volumes, has at length been obtained at a price which, although considerable, is less than that prescribed as a maximum limit by the authorities of the British Museum. This vast storehouse of information, arranged in upwards of 6,000 heads, under 32 sections, which again are grouped in six grand categories, will now for the first time be made accessible to scholars, and the possession of the work will undoubtedly make the library of the British Museum the one place in which studies of all and every subject treated of in Chinese literature may be systematically pursued. The Chinese themselves will thus, in a short time, find in London facilities for research in their own literature such as are beyond the reach of any but a select few in their own country. As, however, the general Index to the collection fills 20 Chinese volumes, apart from the more minute indexes pertaining to each of the sub-divisions of the work, years of labour yet remain to be performed in so cataloguing the collection as to make it fairly accessible to a European investigator.

The United States war-vessel *Ashuelot* arrived Tuesday, having left Tientsin on 21st inst.

It is notified that the P. & O. str. *Gwalior* and *Thibet*, which take the two next

English mails, will go through to London, via Bombay.

Wen-Kwei, the Superintendent of the Hangchow Silk Manufactory, and suite, arrived Sunday from Tientsin, by the China Coast Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Sin Nanxing*, and was received with the usual salutes from the Woosung Forts and from the native gunboats in port. The event is noteworthy from the fact that it seems to show that the China Merchants' Company have not it all their own way in regard to passages taken by high native officials, some of whom seem willing to run counter to the high influence by which the Co. is backed, and to submit to the inconveniences purposely placed in the way of passengers by foreign-owned steamers, rather than be dictated to as to how or by what steamer they shall travel.—Wen-kwei seems to evince great interest in foreigners and all that appertains to their ways and customs of doing business. Yesterday, accompanied by his three sons—very intelligent looking boys, just entering on their teens—and about half-a-dozen of his attendants, he visited several of the large business establishments in the Settlement; a native connected with one of the hong in the Hankow Road acting as his cicerone. Wen-kwei, although unable to speak English, manifested a great desire to understand everything he saw; and, like the majority of mandarins, was scrupulously polite and complimentary to all he came in contact with.

The steamer *Anadyr* took about eighteen of the staff of mechanics who are proceeding to Paris to erect on the Exhibition grounds a Chinese official reception room or pavilion, and two Pagodas, which will be each forty feet high. These have all been constructed in Ningpo under the direction of Sung-sing-kung. As many as 400 men have been employed for some months on the buildings, and it is supposed that their handiwork will elicit considerable commendation in France, as the buildings themselves are on a scale of some magnitude.

The *Peking Gazette* of the 7th November contains a further decree regarding the famine in Honan, authorising the distribution of rations in the various districts according to the intensity of the distress.

The same *Gazette* contains a memorial from the Grand Tutor of the Imperial Academy, giving the customary advice with reference to the calamities under which the nation is at present suffering. The high Mandarins are accused—we fear justly—of doing their duty in a perfunctory manner; and the Emperor is made—we fear uselessly—to exhort them to show more vigour.—The Grand Tutor seems to have put the pith of his recommendations in a postscript. That the members of the Imperial Kindred should be educated to become useful members of society; and that all kinds of grain should be exempted from *lekin* taxation, are practical and wise suggestions.

The *Peking Gazette* of the 10th November contains a curious memorial from the Censor She-tai, urging an increase of 10 or 20 per cent. to the allowances of the Banner-soldiery at Peking, "as a means of lowering the market price of rice." The words imply a whole tissue of mismanagement.

The way the rice market would be lowered would be by the Banner-men selling more of their allowances. Thus, instead of being allowed to find its way into the market through natural channels of trade, the grain is imported by Government in order to pay the soldiery more than they want in kind, in order that they may derange the market by selling the surplus. All this, instead of paying wages in money and leaving the grain to be supplied by merchants in obedience to the natural demand.

The same *Gazette* gives particulars of the complaint which was referred to in an Imperial edict some days ago, regarding the peculations of people connected with the Board of Works at Peking. Two roads, each 100 miles in length, have been lately repaired in order to facilitate the passage of the coffins of two Imperial concubines to their last resting places at the Eastern and Western Mausolea respectively; and a Censor remarks that the cost of such repairs has been more than twice as great, lately, as the records show used to be the case in former reigns. The inference drawn is that corruption is more rampant than it used to be. The remark foreigners will be apt to make is, that it is a pity custom does not locate the graves of the Imperial concubines in many different parts of the country, in order that roads might gradually get made throughout the Empire. But even then, men like Shên Pao-chên would probably have them hosed up directly the coffins had passed over.

Almost every number of the *Peking Gazette* contains some reference to the distress prevailing in the North. In the issue of the 11th November, postponement of the land tax is ordered throughout large districts of Shensi. It is noteworthy, however, that it is not remitted; but that arrears are to be paid up after the spring harvest next year.

In the *Gazette* of the 12th November, the Governor of Shansi again describes the awful state of suffering in the region under his control, things having gone from bad to worse since the period of his accession to office in the spring. "All the hopes that had been entertained of an autumn harvest of buckwheat and other minor foodstaples have been extinguished by the continued drought, and it has not even been possible to get the seed into the ground for the autumn sowing." The price of rice seems to be about 2 taels for 10 catties (say, roughly, about 10d. a lb.). The great necessity, then, is the importation of supplies. "The great extent of the country affected and the long duration of the drought have combined to strip the southern section of the province absolutely bare. There remain neither the bark of trees nor the roots of wild herbs to be eaten, and ordinary food supplies have absolutely disappeared. The land is filled with the sound of lamentations, and the corpses of those who have perished of starvation by the waysides are to be seen on every hand. Words are wanting to describe the awful extent of the calamity."

The *Peking Gazette* of the 13th Nov. contains an elaborate memorial from Li Hung-chang regarding the measures to be taken to relieve the distress in Shansi and Honan. It appears that the instructions

given him six weeks ago to provide funds for these provinces were elicited by proposals laid before the Throne by one of the censors, who suggested that Tls. 1,000,000 should be provided, of which $\frac{1}{3}$ should come from the provincial treasury of Chihli and the remainder be raised by means of a foreign loan. The decree issued in reply disapproved the magnitude of the proposed grant; and Li Hung-chang, in the present memorial, dismisses the proposal to borrow money abroad, in view of the difficulty of negotiating a foreign loan and the heavy rate of interest demanded. The funds required are to be provided from the provincial exchequer. Li then goes on to discuss the necessities of the two provinces and the best mode of conveying supplies to them. He declines the responsibility of doing this as regards Honan, showing that that province is not in nearly such bad straits as Shansi, and that Chihli, moreover, is not the right point of departure. As regards Shansi, the case is far worse; and Li goes on to describe what is being done to help that province, and to relieve the distress in the neighbourhood of Peking.

A PEKING letter of the 15th November says a considerable fall of snow had occurred; and serious disturbances are reported to have broken out in Shansi.—A fourth series of services was held in the State temples of Peking on the 10th instant, and the recent snow-fall is of course regarded as an answer to these petitions.

In an interesting letter which we publish elsewhere, our WENCHOW correspondent gives particulars of a case of intimidation by the local officials, which seems to claim serious notice at Peking.—A Chinaman sold some wood to a foreigner, for shipment in a foreign-vessel, whereupon the officials, who are declared to be greatly interested in the junk trade, threatened him with indefinite penalties. The shipment of the wood is stopped, and the Chinese vendor and his family take refuge in the hong of the purchaser. It is generally difficult to get evidence of any such acts of interference, because the native dealers are afraid to testify; but here at last seems a clear case, in which the victim is forthcoming.—There is evidently a strong fight going on at Wenchow, not only to maintain old squeezes, but to enhance them as against the foreign intruder; and our correspondent's remarks on the subject will be read with general interest.—And an excellent illustration of the purpose of all this taxation is afforded in that city at the present moment. A visit from the Futai is daily expected; so any number of coolies are being dressed in uniform to represent the soldiers upon whose maintenance the *lekin* revenue is supposed to be expended!—A postscript to the chapter of lamentations which we publish elsewhere, adds: We are as dull as ditch-water. Ducks are numerous; but alas! we have no beef, and live on geese, fowls, and goat. Potatoes have run out; so has English flour. Pity us!

The programme is published of the AMOY race meeting, to be held on the 9th and 10th January. Eight events are set down for each day. Entries close on the 22nd December.

Editorial Selections.

A ROAD TO WOOSUNG.

THE question of an open road to Woosung is one altogether independent of the rights and wrongs of the Woosung railway. It is indisputable that at the very commencement of negotiations the advisability of a road to Woosung was acknowledged by the Chinese Government, and that on the strength of this acknowledgment they granted special permission for the purchase of land to be devoted to that purpose. So far as present appearances go, the present authorities at Nanking, having got the railway into their hands, are anxious to close the road also; and against this course the Municipal Council have very properly lodged an appeal. The advisability of the road has been proved in the strongest possible manner during its continuance as a railway, and the reasons are still more weighty for keeping it open now, than they were a few years back for opening it, before its great advantages to natives as well as foreigners were proved by the twelve months' experiment of the railway. The present Viceroy at Nanking appears, in his anti-foreign craze, desirous of running his head against every arrangement of his predecessors in office; and condescends to paltry shuffling when requested to afford facilities for the construction of a new road, the promise of the settlement of which had been made to Mr. Mayers when on his visit to Shanghai last year. But even the question of the right to make roads, which is one of necessity arising from that of the right to purchase land and build houses, open cemeteries, &c., can scarcely be raised with regard to the Woosung line, which was formally sanctioned, and the sanction accompanied by a concession very unusual in China, namely the right to purchase land as needed. If this were the position of affairs five years ago, it cannot be contended that there is now less need for the roadway than there was then. On the contrary, the Settlement has since been gradually extending, the native population has been growing denser, and the foreigner has found the pressure of space gradually growing tighter. It is of course useless to represent to Shên Pao-chên that the measure is one in which his countrymen are largely interested; and that the usual feeling amongst those, with regard to the stoppage of the Woosung Railway, is not one of self-congratulation at an affront offered to foreigners, but one of unmitigated surprise at the shortsightedness of the policy which could shut up a line already productive of great convenience to native interests. So far as we know anything of the Viceroy's antecedents, the last thing to trouble him would be the interests of his own people. But he may probably carry his personal antipathies too far to

suit his ends. It is no secret that much of his peculiar hatred towards the Woosung Railway was not altogether the result of conscientious scruples with regard to foreign influence, but proceeded from a personal squabble with the Viceroy of Chihli. The latter prided himself on the *coup* he had made in transferring from foreign to native hands the only line of railway in China. The Viceroy at Nanking, on the other hand, felt more chagrin at the march that had been stolen on him by the arrangement of matters within his own jurisdiction by a rival official, than he would have done at the mere working by foreigners of a line of railway at so remote a spot as Woosung. This pique was aggravated by the unfriendly relations existing between the two about the purchase of the S. S. N. Co.'s fleet; and the result of all combined has been the destruction as a railway of the line to Woosung. But it by no means follows that the arguments which have influenced the authorities in sanctioning the destruction of the railway should apply to the closing of the road. As we stated above, the need of the latter was acknowledged long ago, even by the Chinese themselves; and all that is now suggested is that their own statement of the case as against the railway should be accepted as to the necessity of the road.

TRIBUTE RICE.

WE have often commented upon the cumbrous system of remitting the rice tribute to Peking in kind, and on the waste and speculation to which it gives rise. It is perhaps scarcely surprising that a country which has made so little advance in the study of political economy, should have failed to get beyond this primitive conception, especially when the interests of so many influential mandarins are bound up in its continuance. We all know how many vested interests cluster round any official custom, and how hard it is to find the man of sufficient influence and integrity to carry through a reform. The squeezes incidental to the collection of the rice tribute and its transmission to Peking are a source of wealth to hundreds of officials and official underlings; and it is scarcely surprising that no official has yet been found to break through a system in which his brother officials are so greatly interested. But a memorial from the Censor She-tai, in the *Gazette* of the 10th November, suggests another curious feature in the business, which deserves a word of explanation. He recommends, as a means of lowering the market price of rice at the present emergency, that the proportion of grain issued to the banner-men should be considerably increased. Most of the rice thus imported into Peking is intended ostensibly for the banner-men of the garrison, but practically it finds its way into the Peking rice shops.

The system is concisely explained in Mr. Dick's reports on the trade of Tientsin for the year 1867. "It is not only," he writes, "the expensiveness of the whole transport, by sea as well as by river, which is open to criticism," but the economical folly of these large Government importations is a very serious consideration. The rice is issued to the officers and men of the garrison by orders on the Granaries; though a soldier, bye-the-bye, never obtains the quantity named in his order. It is said that he never gets more than seven-tenths, and that what he does get has been damaged by the watering to which much of the rice is subjected to cover abductions and make it appear up to the right quantity when placed in the Granaries. "The discount on the allowance represents the charge which the officials and lightermen engaged in carrying the rice, and those who manage the Granaries, think proper to extract from the business."—But what is to our point is that the soldiers do not usually consume the rice themselves, but sell their Orders on the Granaries to the Rice Shops, the proceeds being more than sufficient to buy a quantity of the coarser grain equal to the rice they have sold. "The Peking rice shops," says Mr. Dick, "are almost entirely supplied in this way, as the soldier, provided he gets something more than the price of the coarse grain, can exclude the mercantile importer by selling the rice for less than has been expended on its purchase in the south and its transport to Peking. The tribute becomes thus to some extent simply a trade in rice carried on by the officials at great cost to the country."—These premises help us to understand the curious proposal in Censor She-tai's memorial, that the proportion of grain allowance issued to the soldiery be augmented just now by some 10 or 20 per cent., "as a means of lowering the market price of rice." The price of rice in Peking has, he says, gone up in consequence of the drought, and steps should be taken to mitigate the suffering consequently experienced by the crowded population of the capital. So the above is the step he recommends, and the passages we have extracted from Mr. Dick's memorandum explain how it would operate. It would be difficult to find a better illustration of the clumsy and costly system of transmitting taxes in kind. Instead of collecting the tribute in money, with which it could pay its dependents, and leave them to purchase their own food, the Government imports, at enormous cost, a grain which the men do not want and do not eat but proceed to convert into money directly it is issued to them. Not only does it persist in paying the China Merchants' Steamer Co., for the carriage of this rice, at least double the market rate of freight, but even where the revenue has been collected in money, it requires the provincial authorities to buy rice instead of transmitting

the sycee. The speculation and squeezing which these proceedings involve are not difficult to conceive; and the result is that the Government is placed in the position of importing, at greater cost than a merchant would incur, grain with which the Peking shopkeepers eventually supply themselves at a cheaper rate than they could import it at. The difference represents so much useless expenditure to the country, so much unnecessary taxation, expended in subsidising a Steamer Company and in affording those interested an opportunity of speculation.

THE NEW JAPANESE CODE OF LAWS.

AMONGST the earliest results of a great National Revolution, we may always count on the appearance of a Code of Laws. The Government which assumed the direction of affairs in Japan nine years ago, lost little time in following the example set them by their European predecessors in change, and essayed the difficult task of remodelling the national laws. The author of a careful article on the subject, in the *Japan Mail*, remarks that "as a piece of scientific legislation the new code cannot be said to rank high;" but there are many little points in it worthy of notice, as we can judge from the new laws to what extent New Japan has broken away and separated itself from the Japan of the Daimios, and what connecting threads still exist binding the present on to the past.

We see a relic of the old feudal doctrines, in the mitigation of punishment according to the rank of the offender. A person in the lower ranks of life, for instance, is punished for certain offences, say, for robbery, by penal servitude. The same crime is punished by 20 days' domestic seclusion, if the offender belongs to the favoured class of the Samurai. The soldiers and sailors have very remarkable privileges. One especially strikes us. They are amenable to their own officers alone, even for civil offences. We fear that this exemption may someday be productive of very serious consequences. If at any time a Sovereign desired to maintain himself on the Throne in opposition to the wishes of the bulk of the people, he would unquestionably find in this independent army a very strong and important engine wherewithal to effect his purpose. This is a very remarkable provision, and we are surprised that it should appear in the code. If it would be possible, in some supplementary act of legislation, to repeal or at least to modify this provision, would be a good augury for the future stability of the Island Empire.

The domestic laws are very interesting, and in many cases the provisions are curious. A husband may assault his wife as much as he pleases, so long as he abstains from inflicting a cutting wound. A wife assaulting a husband,

however, gets 100 days' penal servitude, which we conceive in Japan represents a punishment of very great severity. Parents are allowed to chastise their children freely; but we see no permission to schoolmasters to use the rod. This perhaps goes without saying.—We have heard it said that China groans beneath the tyranny of the undertaker, but we did not know that this despotism extended to Japan. It is written, however, in the new code, that "Non-observance of the mourning for parents or husband, is required by a year's penal servitude." It is a little strange, however, that the widower is not compelled to mourn for his deceased partner.—The position of the Press in Japan has aroused considerable attention, and is of course at present peculiar. The critic of the new code whom we have before quoted, notices a provision which might be stretched so as to include and to justify extremely oppressive action. Amongst serious improprieties, punishable with penal servitude for from 30 to 70 days, we find specially mentioned "the publication of written matter that causes difficulties to the administration of Government," etc., the last being an offence of such limitless application as to allow of any amount of tyrannical interference by the Government with thought, speech, and conduct."

There seems to be a doubt whether torture is or is not in use; it is apparently recognized as legal. We conceive, however, that even if it were to be abolished by law, the "investigation whip," or some similar instrument, would be resorted to to extort confessions from accused persons. We must always bear in mind in this connection that, though used in countless instances in England, the Judges declared in the case of Felton, the assassin of the Duke of Buckingham, that the criminal "ought not to be tortured by the rack, for no such punishment is known or allowed by our law." Thus the Judges condemned what the Government had constantly practised. It seems probable that even if the Japanese Code were to forbid the employment of torture, it would be used for sometime to come, as courts are apparently not yet thrown open to the public, and as the prosecutor (an official) sits on the same bench with the Judges, and the accused has no friends or experts to assist him. In fact, there is still opportunity for cruelty and injustice to disfigure the Japanese Trials; yet the Code appears in many particulars to meet the approval of persons qualified to judge, and it is undoubtedly an improvement on the old system. If some traces of the political and social doctrines held in feudal Japan are observable in its pages, we cannot be much surprised; indeed, we may be thankful that it has not more numerous blemishes.

REVIEW.

History of the Mongols from the ninth to the nineteenth century. Part I, the Mongols Proper and the Kalmuks, by Henry N. Howorth, F.R.S. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1878.

There is something solemn, we had almost written appalling, in this volume. It is put forth with an air of profound melancholy. The writer foresees, and foresees with feelings of chastened but plaintive resignation, that he never can have a reader. At the close of his preface, he states his sorrowful but distinct conviction. After thanking various learned Orientalists for their assistance, he concludes thus—"Lastly my wife, my ever patient wife, who has sat out many hundred lonely hours while I have turned over the dusty pages, who has resisted the importunities of many kind friends to burn the heaps of dry-as-dust which I call my library. She has done what no amount of gratitude can repay; but there is one thing she will not dare to do, and that is to read my book."

What the wife of Mr. Howorth's bosom refuses to do, we presume no other living creature will attempt. Yet, paradoxical as it may appear, what no one will ever dream of reading was well worth the trouble of writing. A history of the Mongols was wanted, and a history of the Mongols is here. It would be mere hypocrisy in the reviewer to pretend to have done more than glance at the portentous volume of 743 closely printed pages, but it would be unpardonable to allow such a piece of conscientious workmanship to pass without a notice, or to omit to award highly honourable mention to the laborious author.

He gives us a list of his authorities, and so we are always able to see when he is quoting from writers of weight and when he is giving us statements vouched for by compilers and copyists. The thorough, genuine and scholarly tone of the writer is attested by the sentence that immediately follows his list of authorities, "I may say that in every instance, save perhaps one, these references have been taken from the works quoted, and not at second-hand, and they have been generally verified three or four times over; and I hope that I have not appropriated credit for anything which has not been duly acknowledged."

Still we cannot expect any, save a very small minority of our fellow creatures, to read 700 pages, of which the following is a specimen taken at random:—

"When Gharta, the grandson of Altan Khan, moved as I have described in the last paragraph with one section of the Tumeds to the neighbourhood of the Kharatshins, another section stayed in its old quarters in the neighbourhood of Ko-to Kho-tan. They were ruled by Bushuktu Khan, who was fourth in descent from Altan Khan. When the Chafhars commenced their violent proceedings against their neighbours, Bushuktu allied himself with the Kharatshins and defeated the Chakhars, who were 40,000 strong, at a place named Ta-tseng, situated within the borders of the Tumeds."

Still there are passages of great interest in the volume. We confess to have read without any feeling of weariness the account of Jingis or Genghis Khan. As a specimen of Mr. Howorth's historical style, we quote the opening of this chapter:—

"Among men who have influenced the history of the world, Jingsi Khan holds a foremost place. Popularly he is mentioned with Attila and with Timur as one of the 'Scourges of God.' One of those terrible conquerors who march across the page of history is figured by the simile of a swarm of locusts or a fire in a Canadian forest; but this is doing gross injustice to Jingsi-Khan. Not only was he a conqueror, a general whose consummate ability made him overthrow every barrier that must intervene between the chief of a small barbarous tribe of an obscure race and the throne of Asia, and this with a rapidity and uniform success that can only be compared to the triumphant march of Alexander. But he was far more than a conqueror. Alexander, Napoleon, and Timur were all more or less his equals in the art of war. But the colossal powers they created were merely hills of sand that crumbled to pieces as soon as they were dead. With Jingsi Khan matters were very different; he organized the empire which he had conquered so that it long survived and greatly thrived after he was gone. In every detail of social and political economy he was a creator—his laws and his administrative rules are equally admirable and astounding to the student. Justice, tolerance, discipline, virtues that make up the modern ideal of a state, were taught and practised at his court. And when we remember that he was born and educated in the desert, and that he had neither the sages of Greece nor of Rome to instruct him, that unlike Charlemagne and Alfred he could not draw his lessons from a past whose evening glow was still visible in the horizon, we are tempted to treat as exaggerated the history of his times, and to be sceptical of so much political insight having been born of such unpromising material."

When the narrative is continued to later times, we hear much of Russian embassies, Russian aggressions, and Russian intrigues. We get a curious idea of the style of diplomacy in vogue in Central Asia in the seventeenth century. A Mongol Khan sends to Moscow and asks boldly for a "gratification," on the receipt of which he will do all he can to forward Russian interests. Lest there should be any mistake he specifies what he wants, "1,000 ducats, 1,000 great beads, a cloth tent to hold 1,000 persons, 108 great red coral beads, a black fox skin, a good suit of armour and a sword." The envoys who came with this modest request were well received in the Czar's capital, and returned with two Russian officials, Starkoff and Newierof. The first of these ambassadors has left a record of his experiences. This mission began inauspiciously with a quarrel about a delicate point of etiquette. We read—

"The 9th of November was fixed upon for the audience, this being a lucky day. At first there was a long pause, neither party beginning to speak. On previous occasions the Khan had broken the ice by asking after the Czar's health, but the Mongols now insisted that the envoys should first enquire about the Khan's health, and urged that this was due to him as a descendant of the great Jingsi Khan. The Mongols proceeded to threats and even to violence. The envoys went back to their tent, and the Mongols removed the provisions which they had supplied."

Later, the differences were arranged, and Starkoff and his colleague were supplied with necessaries. Amongst other articles they were given tea, which he says was an unknown drink. "They call it tchai," he says, "I know not whether the leaves of which it is made come from a tree or from some herb. They put them in water and then add milk to it. Surely a very naive

statement to our ears." On their departure, the Khan gave them the tribute which they were to take on his behalf to the Czar. Amongst other offerings there were "200 bakhtshas of tea, which was worth among the Mongols 100 sable skins." Starkoff declared this latter article to be unknown and valueless in Russia, and desired the sable skins instead. This was just three hundred years ago!

The following is a curious episode:—"Like most other countries, Russia has had its romantic El Dorado, a land outside its borders where it was fancied wealth and ease might be bought easily by washing gold out of a river, and which led to some adventurous journeys. This El Dorado was the country of little Bukharia, and especially the neighbourhood of Yarkend, reported to be rich in gold deposits." Peter the Great was very anxious to handle these nuggets, and he sent agents and finally troops to try and discover the treasure, but after two or three abortive expeditions the attempt was given up.

The reader who would venture to penetrate further into this formidable volume would, we have no doubt, find many more hitherto unknown facts, many valuable and instructive historical notes, and many descriptions of curious tribal customs. When once we can overcome the distaste which the strange names and the uninteresting peoples create in the mind, there is of course something to repay the labour of perusal. The commendable features in Mr. Howorth are his modesty, his research, and his manifest desire to get at the truth. One sentence from his introduction specially deserves to be remembered. It fairly indicates the spirit of the author of the History of the Mongols, and may fitly close our notice of him:—

"A large portion of the writing on Oriental matters is not only polemical, but bitterly so. I feel too much gratitude for the great dead who have cleared my path to imitate this example."

REVIEW.

China Review—September and October, 1877.

The present number of this Review is above the average in interest and importance, and we are glad to notice the marked improvement in the tone and character of the articles. It commences with a sketch by the Rev. J. Chalmers on the rhymes of the Shi-king. Mr. Chalmers is so ripe a Chinese scholar, and so reliable in his statements, that we may always look to his papers for some fresh information or trite generalisation. It would be wise for sinologists that they should bear in mind the following simple statement, the understanding of which has been a stumbling block to many accomplished scholars, who have confounded the artificial construction of the Chinese characters with the natural out-growth of Chinese speech. "Speech," Mr. Chalmers tells us, "was before writing. The Chinese written characters were made for the spoken language, and not the spoken language for the written characters." It seems curious that so simple a truism should be every day put out of sight; yet we find still, in dictionaries, such absurd etymologies as the following "初 ch'o from clothes and knife, to cut out clothes,"

"粗 ts'u from rice and hereafter," "昌 ch'ang, admirable words," &c. Kang-hi's Tse-tien is, of course, here the original offender; but it argues little for sinology that the crude statements of Chinese writers, honest in their way, but utterly ignorant of comparative philology, should still be repeated parrot-like and accepted as etymological facts. Mr. Chalmers finds difficulties in the old Chinese rhymes, and boldly states them, in place of supposing that, having copied the Chinese tables, he has done all it is necessary to do. Some phonetics, he points out, seem to denote some early attempt at orthography; characters are composed of various portions, the junction of which gives an approach to the sound of the combined word. This opens a field for speculation, though at the moment we are not disposed to attach much importance to it. A second difficulty with Mr. Chalmers is more easily explained. Many sounds ending in *ng* rhyme with others where the termination is diphthongal, *ai* or *ou* for instance; here we may suggest that both express a lost *r*, which sometimes too becomes converted into modern *n*. *Ng* is doubtless occasionally lost as in 打 *ta* to strike, still pronounced *tang* in many dialects. So of initials. Mr. Chalmers remarks the curious fact that words with initials having no apparent connexion, are yet presented by similarly formed characters. Why should *ch'ung*, honour, be constructed with the same phonetic as *lung*, dragon? We will venture a very simple explanation. It may seem curious that *l* should represent *d*, yet we have only to compare Latin with Greek to see that the phenomenon is not peculiar to Chinese. As *lacryma* represents Greek *dakru*, so *l* in *lung* seems to represent an original *d*; *ng* we have seen replaces an older *r*, and *ch'* likewise an original *d*, 龍 and 寵 both come to be *dar*. Having got so far we may appeal to cognate languages. *Dar* in Greek produces the secondary root *derk* to see (from which comes *draco*, the dragon), and which is represented in Sanscrit by *dri* to see. The older form also appears in *dri*, *respicere*, *estimare*, corresponding with the Chinese *ch'ung*, *respicere*, *facere*. The two words have thus both a phonetic and etymological connexion; and this fact is curiously preserved in the Chinese written language. Take again such a common word as 車, a carriage. This character is represented in Chinese by two very dissimilar sounds, *ch'e* and *kiu*. These refuse to be referred to any single initial consonant. *K*, according to the ordinary laws of phonetic change, would still remain *k* in our primitive language; *ch'* we have seen sometimes represents *d*, but it may also stand for *s*. If we join the two we shall get the combination *ks* with which we may compare the Greek *axōn*, the Sanscrit *aksha*, both agreeing in meaning with the Chinese 車. Such identifications as Chinese *lung* with Greek *drako* will probably seem at first sight in the eyes of many to be instances of mere etymological sleight of hand, and it therefore behoves the propounder to show that they can be referred to some general rule in comparative philology of wide application. All comparative students of language are acquainted with the rules in Aryan languages known now as Grimm's

laws, which govern the interchange of consonants. If no such law can be proved to exist between Chinese and the older languages of Central and Western Asia, we may safely affirm that no connexion exists, or that we have as yet failed to adduce *prima facie* evidence of its existence. In point of fact such a law does exist which, reduced to its simplest form, may be stated in a few words. Adopting the ordinary division of Chinese initials into aspirates and non-aspirates, it may be expressed thus:—1°, *Non-aspirates in Chinese represent the corresponding surds in the ancient language.* 2°, *Aspirates in Chinese represent the corresponding sonants and aspirates.* This rule has, however, to be modified on account of the tyranny exercised in Chinese by the tones over the other essentials of language. The third rule, therefore, is, *The third and fourth lower tones being unable to take the aspirate, words in those tones which according to rule 2° should begin with an aspirated consonant, have to exchange the aspirate for the corresponding non-aspirate.* The other rules are secondary to these, but we may mention the following as essential:—4° *Chinese palatals, (ch & ts), are the representatives of older dentals; and in the aspirated series are frequently substituted for original sibilants.* These rules we may put forward as the stock in trade of the comparative philologist who desires to make Chinese his study. The Cantonese dialect has fortunately preserved in comparative purity the final consonantal endings; where, however, one consonant in each of the three classes of labials, dentals and gutturals has to do duty for the whole. *Ng* we have been seen replaces *r*; and we may add *ao* or *ai* or sometimes merely a long vowel stands for *l*. Where double consonants originally terminated the root, sometimes one, sometimes another has been dropped; occasionally both forms have been preserved, and hence words now ending in dissimilar consonants, so late as the time of the Shik-king, are found rhyming together. Probably no better authority on the tones of Chinese is to be found than Mr. Chalmers, to whom we owe our acknowledgments for the 3rd rule above. The others are put forward for, we believe, the first time, but they will be found to solve many of the difficulties pointed out in the article to which we refer. They will also apply to the relations of Chinese with the older types of the original Aryan tongue, as exemplified in Sanscrit or Greek. Grimm's laws, as stated by recent comparative philologists, will explain the further relations of the language.

The third article in the present number is a very valuable paper on the wild silk-worms and the silk goods of Shantung, by Mr. A. A. Fauvel, and more particularly referring to the so-called wild silk-worm, the *Attacus Pernyi* of entomologists. Although Mr. Fauvel refers to the ancient accounts of silk in the Classics, and quotes Claudian's:—

"Stamine quod molli tondent
de stipite Seres,....."

which, by the bye, is curiously transformed in the heading to the article, he neither explains this or P. Martini's description, *non in globum aut ovum ductum*. The silkworms described in the article do not thus

festoon the trees with their silk, and are as essentially cocoon spinners as the ordinary silk-worm, the *Bombyx Mori*. The latter silk-worm is also found in Shantung, which is probably indeed its original habitat. The *Attacus Pernyi*, though called both by natives and foreigners a wild worm, has long since passed out of that category, and is almost as dependent on human culture as the ordinary silk-worm. Mr. Fauvel, after describing the trees most affected by the insect, gives an account of its own progress from the egg to the time when it emerges perfect from the chrysalis. Owing to a printer's blunder on page 99, (and printers' errors, we are sorry to notice, are too prevalent in the *China Review*) the description of the hatching of the eggs is made almost unintelligible. The insect is bivoltine, there being two generations and two crops of cocoons in the course of the year; and it is preserved during the winter in the chrysalis state instead of in the egg, as in the better known silk-worm of this province. This circumstance leads to special precaution being necessary, and has caused great difficulties in its transportation. After the history of the insect, Mr. Fauvel describes the processes of reeling and spinning, which, contrary to the generally received opinion, do not seem to present any very great difficulties. The best piece-goods are produced from the spun silk, but these it seems are seldom exported. The goods woven from this silk, known in trade as Pongees, have not the fine gloss of the mulberry silk-worm's product. They are strong and serviceable, but labour under certain drawbacks, more especially in their refusal to bleach and the difficulty with which they can be induced to take dyes. As at present brought into the market, their careless make interferes much with their consumption, and we are glad, therefore, to learn that a large reeling establishment, under foreign supervision, is in process of completion near Chefoo. It has always seemed to us that the manufacture of silk goods is still in its infancy, and not only that much remains to be done towards improving the manufacture of the finer sorts, more especially in their earlier stages, but that an important industry will one day be developed from the hitherto almost neglected "wild" worms of China. China is admirably adapted, not only for silk culture but for silk manufacture; and we may predict that, if ever the Chinese gain the requisite experience, and get rid of the artificial shackles which now hamper trade, Chinese silk goods will become an important article of clothing in Europe and America. The levies raised on the production of silk in China, injure no one but the Chinese. Without them, in the article of silk—raw, thrown or manufactured—they could enter into profitable competition with the rest of the world. A second description of silk, that produced from the Ailanthus worm, the *Attacus cynthia vera*, is likewise to be found in Shantung; but as yet is not an important staple. From the low price at which it can be produced, its manufacture would probably be found profitable, as it would tend to displace other inferior articles of dress. There is likewise a sort of black silk produced, but Mr. Fauvel was not able to learn much about it.

Notes on Chinese Grammar, if somewhat prolix, are very useful for the advanced student. They are practical rather than theoretical, and will doubtless be welcomed by those for whom they are intended, as explaining the use of many apparently redundant words in ordinary Chinese.

Mr. Kopsch's Geographical Notes on the Province of Kiangsi are interesting, and afford a good deal of information about an important but little known province of China. Kiangsi abounds in legends, every peak has its story, and were it not that the people have hitherto shown themselves unfriendly towards foreigners, the province would doubtless before this have afforded many quaint versions of primitive folklore.

Some Notes on Chinese primers are interesting, as showing the peculiar influences brought to bear on the natives from their cradle. What should we think of the code of morality to be deduced from the following tale?—

"A woman of T'se maintained her chastity in order to attend on her husband's mother. The latter, fearing that she stood in the way of her daughter-in-law's marriage, hanged herself. The mother-in-law's daughter accused her cousin of inciting to the event, and the latter was decapitated. The country then suffered from drought, on which the gaoler, one Ting, petitioned the magistrate, saying, 'We should sacrifice to the wronged woman, when it will rain,' which it did."

The usual notices and reviews, very useful to Chinese students, and interesting to others, conclude the number.

T. W. K.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

It is beginning to be quite cold here now. At night, ice freezes along the river bank, and in the ponds. The Chinese are predicting an early winter. Already refugees are flocking to Tientsin by scores if not hundreds. A proclamation recently announced the opening of the soup-kitchens on the 10th of the present moon, but I now learn that the opening is to be postponed till the 20th. This will disappoint many, and cause much suffering.

The athletes and bow and arrow men of Tientsin are now rejoicing in that one of their number has attained to the highest honor possible in the competitive examination. He is now known as a *tsuang yuen* (狀元), and will become a gate-keeper in the palace, with certain military preferment in prospect when his successor is chosen at the next test of skill with the bow and strength of muscle.

There is rumor of some disturbance up the Grand Canal, but it lacks confirmation. Just about here all is now quiet.

Refugees are coming in to Tientsin daily, by scores if not hundreds. One poor fellow was found dead two days ago, just on the edge of the foreign settlement.

I learn that the money contributed for Shansi by the Tientsin merchants is to be sent there to buy grain; and that grain is to be sent there by the Government to be sold at cost.

The *Ashmetot* left us on Thursday morning, much to our regret. We are hoping she may meet despatches turning her back.

The weather continues cold, and many are anticipating an early closing of the river.

23rd November.

HANGCHOW.

I have made what enquiries I could, in reference to the rumour your Ningpo correspondent mentioned last month, of the Futai having got into trouble here, but do not find there is much in the story. There was some talk about his having offended a rich family in the place, named Hyu, by encroaching on their graves, in erecting a fort; but nothing special is known to have grown out of it. Among your translations of the *Peking Gazette* lately, was a report of an attempt by a scholar to secure the Futai's approval of a book which was written in condemnation of the officials here. This matter was mixed up in some way with the "desecration of the graves" in the popular rumour, and made more of than there was any occasion for.—The Futai has been to Ningpo, and has returned to Hangchow.

17th Nov.

HANKOW.

We are having quite a benefit of rain now after the long drought—no doubt it is a great benefit to the poor country people in the adjoining provinces, and even in this one, so we must not growl.—There is trouble coming, this autumn. During the last five days, ten banks (large and small), have "burst" up, and more are expected to follow. None of the big banks will do discount pinyin now, as it is difficult to know who to be safe with. During all this, the Mandarins seem to be prospering, and go on their usual style of squeeze. Only last month the Taotai here, who was transferred to Foochow, took away with him his six years' plunder in the shape of about seven lakhs of taels. This is well-known in native circles—rather good!—Part of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank loan to the Chinese has arrived here, in fact nearly all; and is being forwarded as fast as possible to Tso Tsung-tang.—The Russian hongas here are to be paid for the supplies furnished by a Russian merchant to Tso, during his Kashgar campaign. It is said it amounts to three lakhs of taels; but the Taotai has ordered the Haiquan banks at present to get ready Tls. 150,000, awaiting formal orders to hand over the amount.—The *Hornet* arrived yesterday, after a fourteen days' trip from Shanghai, to relieve the *Sheldrake*, going to Chefoo.

Writing on the 24th instant, Messrs. Gordon Bros. state the Tea Export to date as follows:—

	Re-exports.
Season...1877-78	57,223,473 lbs. 8,947,008 lbs.
	1876-77 63,468,116 ,, 9,805,527 ,,

Deficiency..1877	6,244,643 lbs.	848,519 lbs.
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From Kiukiang the Export to 2nd Nov. was 23,673,152 lbs. against 24,875,899 lbs. at same date last year. Expected arrivals 20,000 half-chests.

WENCHOW.

Availing myself of the privilege usually accorded to persons undergoing penal servitude, I elect to address this periodical communication with the outer world to your care. As prisons go, the routine here is perhaps not so bad, although for certain geographical reasons solitary confinement is perhaps enforced to a greater extent than a very good-hearted Pentonville warden might think absolutely necessary. Considering that this isolation is entirely due to official sins of omission and commission, for which we are not responsible, we certainly thought it pressing severity to an undue length when H.M.S. *Curlew* arrived without any letters, not to mention papers. We were informed that her departure had been duly notified, but no postal announcement appeared, and, therefore, no mails were sent. Of course, we know that good nature and sympathy with suffering humanity is all

that gives us a right to hope that the information would be passed on to the proper postal quarter. We also remember that the time when the *Curlew* left Shanghai was an exceptional one, for the Races were pending and the up-country trips fitting out. Still, we cannot help hoping that when it is known how entirely dependant we are on the charitable efforts of those in a position to aid us, by stretch of Christian kindness one spare second may be seized to perform a benevolent act fraught with so much happiness to the residents of Wenchow. For six weary weeks we have not seen a Shanghai paper and have received but one mail. We have sent couriers away regularly every second Saturday and contracted with them to make the return trip—but alas! they have not brought letters back. Playing the rôle of Bathsheba's child to our David, it appears, so to speak, that though we may go to you, you cannot come to us. However, to quote from another obituary record, "Friends kindly accept this intimation." A special courier leaves Ningpo for Wenchow on or about every Friday, letters to be addressed to the care of the Customs at the former place. L.P.O. please note.

So much for the particular, now let us go to the general, and probably more interesting. The last excitement has been a direct open attempt at intimidation and coercion of a Chinaman, who had sold some wood to a foreign merchant for shipment in a foreign vessel. *Mirabile dictu!* The informant was the unhappy native himself, who with his wife and belongings fled in terror of his life to the hong of the merchant to whom he had sold the wood. First, I must inform you that several of the officials here own or are interested in junks, shops, and trade generally. To take two instances. The Chentai is a large junk owner and has also several shops in the city. One of the Sub-Prefects is similarly engaged in commerce. To continue:—A cry was raised that if foreigners were allowed to buy wood, &c., and ship in foreign vessels, the junk trade would be ruined, and with it these influential persons. Hence, soon after the sale before mentioned had been effected, and a portion of the wood shipped, a petty mandarin proceeded to the house of the vendor and threatened him with everything, from imprisonment up to decapitation, if he dared to sell another stick or have any further dealings with foreigners. That portion of the wood unshipped was peremptorily stopped, and the vessel had to proceed without it. I should mention that *lekin* was duly paid for the lot shipped, but not accepted when tendered for that stopped.

After all, we may have to be grateful to Wenchow for bringing into prominent view so early in the day, the intentions of the Chinese as to carrying out and interpreting the Chefoo Convention. We see the *lekin* office boldly placed alongside the Custom House; we find unprecedented rates levied on all cargo, immediately on landing, and whether intended for sale in the "port or city" or beyond; then (MARK WELL), should the goods go further they have AGAIN to pay a similar tax. That is to say, the first imposition is as an ADDITIONAL IMPORT DUTY merely, and exceeds in amount that paid to the legitimate Customs; should the merchandise be going further, then a similar sum as *transit due* must be paid. Thus, before goods can reach the country consumer, they must have paid two import duties and one transit impost. The Custom House and its adjoining *lekin* office are at the head of the only jetty or landing place, just outside the North-Gate, so that the *extra* import duty can be and is readily levied simultaneously with the Customs. Undoubtedly the fear of foreign competition has alarmed the official traders, and to this fact must we in part ascribe the grand energy and audacity with which the only apparent lever at hand for warding off the danger has been used. Great

was the joy when the *Conquest* was "driven off," and general the triumph amongst the junk owners. I believe arrangements are nearly completed for farming the tax. The Chinese tendency is to utilize this acquisition, so that those who really or nominally purchase the right to levy *lekin* will pay scarcely anything, whilst foreigners and those whom it may please the monopolists to look on as hostile, must pay the full amount set down in the published tariff. Whether this will be managed here as successfully as at Ningpo, remains to be seen. I rather fancy that, thanks to certain influences and experience which foreigners are fortunate enough to be able to count on, should merchants bestir themselves as they ought, the attempt (if made) will be in the long run frustrated. The official commercial interest in the exclusion of foreigners, however, will increase the temptation to try on the old tricks, as it will also render the right to levy farmable at minimum outlay. Of course, should the Chefoo Convention be ratified, resistance would be useless; those that care to remain, must then try to make themselves as happy as possible in the restricted area, or, (rejecting the modern euphuism "Settlement," use the old term) "factory," in which they will be confined, whilst the cordon of *lekin* collectors, reveling in the majesty of British protection, will find their task an easy one, and necessarily infinitely simpler than it used to be under the Treaties. In such an event, well may the Celestial victors glory in the knowledge that, by their exquisite "diplomacy," they have been able to convert what purported to be an humble and sincere amend for horrible outrage, into a triumph of exclusivism such as the most brilliant campaign could scarcely have accomplished, and which our military successes before Canton and Tientsin had done so much to prevent.

In anticipation of the Fu-tai's arrival, most of the labouring classes in city and suburbs have had to don the military garb, as apparently there are no end of what used, in the old days of naval pursers, to be called "widow's men"; and of course these ideal warriors must assume material form during the great man's stay. One sees the uniform everywhere, in the fields, carrying loads, and at all sorts of work. They have to go for instruction during a certain part of the day, and afterwards return to their respective avocations. By the way, a great portion of the urgently needed military tax *yclept lekin* goes to pay these same "widow's men." In keeping, however, with his ready aptitude for excuse, if the virtuous Chinaman was asked for an explanation, he would at once reply that these dummies were instituted as an economical plan for keeping up the military respectability of the country on paper, and were so many more proofs of the urgent need there was for the increase of a palpably inadequate *lekin*.

It is not the least of the many remarkable anomalies in diplomatic intercourse with China, that whereas in treating with other nations the knowledge of the existence of gross immorality rather strengthens the hands of him against whom it is arrayed, and in direct ratio to its extent aids in overcoming resistance, at Peking the contrary would seem to be the case; for it appears that diplomatists have to spend much of their time in devising means for so ignoring the glaring frauds and falsehoods, that the burlesque of treating a people with whom dishonesty is a merit on the same footing as powers holding very different views, might be rendered as little apparent as possible.

All the large canal boats have been impressed for weeks past, in case His Excellency should arrive unexpectedly and require their services. This, of course, is a great hardship, as the unhappy owners can earn nothing, and are paid little if anything.

As though we had not been afflicted sufficiently, our little community has met with a truly great loss in the removal of Mr. H. E. Hobson to Takow. If we have had one blessing vouchsafed to us, it has taken the form of the two leading officials sent to open this port—both of them able, energetic, and universally liked. Were it not that we have now to mourn the loss of one, it would be invidious to make special reference to either. It is those coming hereafter who will have most cause to praise the discretion, foresight, and firmness displayed by the two officials on whom has devolved the responsibility of arranging and guarding the innumerable and important details attendant on the opening of Wenchow. Certain I am that Mr. Hobson's name will be held in as affectionate and grateful recollection in the future of this port as it has long been in the past of the old ones; and I feel sure that I only write that which is the hearty desire of all my fellow residents, when in their name I wish much happiness and long life to our late able, kindly, and popular Commissioner.

In saying farewell to Mr. Hobson, we do not forget to welcome his successor, a man whose long experience in China and in his service is likely to be of no less use to him than to the port whose destinies he will now take part in watching.

As you will doubtless say: what with growling, Chinese iniquity, and mourning, this is a somewhat lugubrious letter; but when affairs reach their worst they are apt to mend; though "slow grinds the mill," let us trust it may crush "exceeding sure;" and therefore, giving comforting play to my naturally sanguine disposition, I will, in spite of all, continue to believe (and wish you to do the same) that there may yet be for us all in China—

SPES.

HONGKONG.

We reprint from the *Daily Press* an account of the explosion on board the steamer *Yesso*. The accident occurred as she was being moored alongside the Wharf. Twelve Chinese were killed on the spot and nearly a hundred injured. Only one European, the 2nd engineer, was hurt, and he not seriously.—The *China Mail* says the British barque *Queensbury*, Captain Hennings, has become a total wreck. She went ashore on the 13th October in the Palawan Passage, and the suddenness of the catastrophe may be easily understood when we say that the unfortunate crew were unable to do more than save merely what they stood in, not even a pound of biscuits. For four days they made their way in open boats in a heavy sea, amidst drenching rains, without a morsel of food of any kind. They then fortunately fell in with a native boat and obtained a few pounds of rice, enough to make a meal for one day.—The Captain had his wife and children in his boat, and their sufferings may be imagined. On the seventh day they made Bilaboa, where they were kindly cared for by the Governor, and subsequently embarked on board the S.S. *Pasig* for Manila, whence they were brought on in the *Mactan*.—The *Mail* gives some particulars of a proposed Typhoon Refuge for boats. The total cost of the structure is, it believes, estimated at \$50,000. It is to be built of rough blocks taken from the adjoining quarry, and thrown into the water loosely in the manner termed *pierre perdue*. On the heavier part of the works it is proposed to employ convicts. The breakwater will run along a depth of 12 feet of water, and rise 9 feet above the level of high tides, with a width of 15 feet across the top. Probably the works will occupy from two to three years, and when completed they will be large enough to take in the whole floating population of the harbour, with the exception of first class cargo boats, which will run for their usual shelter behind Stonecutter's Island and Yau-ma-te. Causeway

Bay is the site chosen.—H.M.S. gunboat *Fly* has arrived from Nagasaki. She reports having experienced a heavy gale of wind from the N.E. which lasted during the 18th and 19th, when she lost several sails.

The *China Mail* understands that the A.D.C. of H.M.S. *Audacious* have handed over a sum of between \$300 and \$400, being the proceeds of their entertainment at the City Hall in aid of the Indian Famine Relief Fund.—Subscriptions to the Famine Relief Fund for Shansi Province are flowing in rapidly and satisfactorily. The Chinese at Singapore have subscribed \$2,000 and those at Macao about \$1,000.—Mr. Brereton has applied to the Supreme Court on behalf of Mr. W. H. Forbes, executor, for letters of administration in the estate of late Captain Sands. The value of property was sworn as under \$230,000.—The French corvette *Talisman*, Captain St. Hilaire, from Shanghai, is reported to have small-pox on board, and flew the yellow flag in order to warn persons from boarding her.—On Sunday morning a naval yard policeman, stationed at Kowloon, went out for a sail in a small boat, which is kept over there for the purpose of going to Hongkong and back. He was not heard of, nor was the boat seen again till Wednesday, when his body was found near Kowloon Bay. He was last seen beating out towards the Ly-ee-moon Pass. It is supposed that the boat got swamped, for it was blowing a rather stiff breeze at the time, and that, having some ballast in, she sunk. The man was unable to swim.—The *Mail* understands there is no intention on the part of the Government to divert the site selected for the Central School to any other purpose than that for which it was purchased.—A return rifle match took place at the Kowloon range on Friday, between the Royal Engineers and Police. The distances were 200, 500, and 600 yards, any position, and the weapon used the Martini-Henry. The Police won the match by 78 points, the seven men making an aggregate total at the three distances of 429, and Sergeant Quincey making the highest score of 68. The *Press* and the *Mail* seem to be rather exercised at the moment regarding the position of Mr. Ng Choy. The former, for instance, understands that Mr. Ng Choy has no intention of giving up his practice as a barrister in the colony at present. No doubt, it says, the services of a gentleman of Mr. Ng Choy's attainments would be very valuable to the Chinese Government, and it is not improbable that before long he may receive the offer of some valuable appointment, but his engagement is not yet *in fait accompli*. It cannot, the *Press* thinks, be pleasant to Mr. Ng Choy to have it so persistently and repeatedly stated that he has been appointed, while at most the matter is only under consideration. The *China Mail*, however, declares that Mr. Ng Choy personally confirms its statement of his having received an engagement as Legal Adviser to Li Hung Chang, and remarks that its local contemporary seems unable to grasp the fact that Mr. Ng Choy can return to Hongkong (to settle his affairs) and yet hold an engagement with the great Chinese Minister.—The *Mail* understands there has been much sickness amongst the soldiers stationed at Kowloon, and in consequence it is thought desirable to abstain from sending any more men over there until a more favorable report can be made of the locality.

CANTON.

The review of the troops on the Parade Ground last Thursday passed off very satisfactorily. The men were put through various evolutions, including a sham fight, and at the close rewards were given to the more efficient ones (save the mark), such as medals (not putty), clothing, buttons, etc. Amongst those present at the review

were the Governor-General, the Lieutenant-Governor, the Commander-in-chief, and their suites. Amongst the spectators were also a number of foreigners. A slight accident happened to some of the spectators by the falling of a mud wall abutting upon the Parade Ground. About ten persons were more or less injured, but none very seriously.

About two o'clock in the morning a few days ago, a band of robbers, numbering about eighty, made an attack upon Lan Tau village, in the Nam-hoi district, and successfully plundered the houses of seven wealthy people and took away with them booty amounting to over \$10,000. When the alarm was first raised, the villagers offered resistance, but beyond several persons on each side receiving wounds of greater or less severity, the resistance was ineffectual and no arrests were made.—*Daily Press*.

12th Nov.

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* says one prominent feature marking the close of the campaign in Kiushiu is the return of the small fleet of coasting steamers to their legitimate routes from which they have, from one cause or other, been so long withdrawn.—The Tokio Exhibition for Home productions seems to have excited the emulation of all the industrial classes in Japan. The inhabitants of Matsuyama in Shikoku are making active preparations for an exhibition of curiosities and their own manufactures, to be held next spring. This is a country hitherto almost unknown to foreigners, and would no doubt prove very interesting to visitors.—James Andrews, a seaman of H.B.M.'s corvette *Modeste*, accidentally fell overboard and was drowned. The body was recovered, and at an inquest held over it, a verdict of "Death from accidental drowning" was recorded.—For many months past, says the *Sun*, the Settlement has laboured under the disadvantage of having no local government to supervise and control the disposal of such monies as the land-renters have a right to expect should be expended in their interests. It is a notorious fact, that although heavy land-rents are levied on those residing in the Settlement, their personal convenience is so little studied, that—to quote one instance—for the past twelve months residents have been compelled to depend upon their own lanterns and lamps to obtain the facility for travelling from house to house, which in a well-regulated place should be provided them. The *Sun* trusts that with the change at H.B.M.'s Consulate, a new era in Nagasaki Municipal affairs will be inaugurated, and that all will join heartily in the endeavour, not only to render Nagasaki what it might be, but to make it what it should be. The experiment of leaving matters in the hands of native authorities has so far proved a failure, that it is hoped the Consuls, each and all, will see the necessity for amicably discussing ways and means to provide for the future well-being of the Foreign Settlement of Nagasaki.

The *Cosmopolitan Press* says the epidemic of cholera has abated, but various other diseases are prevalent. Small-pox has lately appeared in the Kagoshima Ken, and application for vaccine to be sent has been made to the proper authorities.—The policemen who had been enrolled in this Ken were nearly all disbanded on the 5th, and as a reward for their services during the time of the rebellion they received from 10 to 15 yen each.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Gazette* says no new cases of cholera are reported, and there were only eight cases from dawn of the 6th to dawn of the 9th inst. No deaths are reported among either old or new cases.—On the evening

of the 9th inst., a fire broke out in an oil-shop at Shinagawa, caused by an accident to a kerosine lamp. The flames spread rapidly although the weather was calm, and could not be got under before two hundred and fifty houses were destroyed. Many houses of public resort were among them, and, as these usually contain a large number of inmates, the suffering entailed will be far greater than results from fires in any ordinary quarter of the city. It is stated that an old man and a child were burnt to death.—Both the Pacific Mail and the Occidental and Oriental Steamship Companies have advertised a very material reduction in their passenger rates from Yokohama to Europe, and both companies charge the same amount.—The third day's sport at the autumn meeting of the Yokohama Race Club was as favourable as its predecessors. Nine events were contested, the intervals between which were again enlivened by the band of the *Tennessee*.—The autumn meeting of the Amateur Athletic Association of Yokohama has also been held, and was very successful, although what was intended for two days' sport had to be squeezed into one, no fewer than twenty-two contests being got off.—From the *Echo du Japon*, the *Gazette* translates that the silk market has again recovered in a very perceptible manner, and a rise of thirty dollars has taken place during the past three days in the various kinds and qualities. Transactions have been very considerable since the commencement of the week, and have reached the figure of 1,900 Japanese bales. In silk-worms' egg cards some further purchases have been made; but, nevertheless, it is considered the market has nearly closed. The native journals say that the throwing into the sea of a certain quantity of those seven-tenths of the entire production which were condemned to destruction, has commenced; but there seems to be an evident unwillingness on the part of many holders thus to sacrifice their goods.

The *Herald* says the re-hearing of the case, Iwasaki Yataro, of the Mitsui Bishi S. S. Co. v. Captain Colomb, of H.M.S. *Audacious*, on the motion of the counsel for the plaintiff, Mr. Ness, been postponed until the 1st of April next year.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Nov. 4th.—(1) A decree of the Empress Regent bestowing honours and rewards upon the officials who have distinguished themselves by their exertions in the superintendence of the construction of the Mausoleum of the Emperor lately deceased, whose services have been reported upon by the Prince of Kung and his colleagues in the Imperial commission. A list extending to thirty-three pages of the *Gazette* here ensues, the catalogue beginning with an officer of the rank of Prefect, who is ordered to be advanced to the head of the list of officers of his own grade eligible for immediate employment, and is farther rewarded with the peacock-feather decoration. A large number of non-commissioned officers and men of the Banner forces in Peking are also included in the distribution of honours and promotions.

(2) The Governor-General of the Two Kwang memorializes reporting the decease of the Brigade-General Mèh Lung-t'ao, who was appointed by decree of the 19th May last to the Yeo-kiang command in Kwang-si. A despatch from the Brigade-General commanding in North Formosa reports the decease of the officer in question while attached to the military forces in the Island, on the 7th July last. (See *Gazette* of Oct. 17th.)

Nov. 5th.—(1) A Decree. Let Ying Han 英翰 succeed to the post of Military

Lieutenant-Governor of Urumts'i. (N.B.—Ying Han, who was degraded in September, 1875, from the office of Governor-General of the Two Kwang, for his patronage of the gambling lottery scheme, was again restored to favour toward the close of last year, and appointed by decree of 13th Dec., 1876, to act in the post in which he is now confirmed.)

No other documents of importance.

Nov. 6th.—A decree based upon a memorial from Wên Kêh, Governor of Shantung, reporting upon the safety of the embankments of the Yellow River. A memorial tablet is commanded to be inscribed and forwarded to the Governor, to be suspended in the Temple of the River God in token of devout thanksgiving, and ten sticks of Tibetan incense are bestowed as an offering in the same quarter.

Nov. 7th.—(1) A Decree. The Grand Tutor of the Imperial Academy of Learning, Pao T'ing, in his memorials tendering counsel in pursuance of Our appeal for the submission of advice, has represented that in the present calamitous state of affairs, when the nation is labouring under grievous afflictions, and the Sovereign is occupied incessantly, by day and night, with earnest endeavours to conduct aright the task of government, everything depends upon the activity with which the functionaries of the State, from the highest to the lowest, throughout the Empire, bring their natural gifts to bear and devote their utmost energies to the accomplishment of their duty, with the object of striving unitedly to relieve the prevailing difficulties. If it be true, as the memorialist asserts, that the heads of the central departments of State and the high provincial authorities are in the constant habit of shuffling off the responsibilities of their office and following supinely a course of routine, so that their subordinates are left without fear of superior control—and that the Ministers actually charged with the guidance of the affairs of State have neither the courage to assume responsibility nor the will to expose themselves to dislike, the public service becoming, for this reason, daily more and more remiss, and the interests of the people daily more and more exposed to harm, so that indignation combines itself with menace, whilst the miseries produced by natural calamity are constantly repeated;—if this be true, then, indeed, while the Sovereign in all earnestness aims at what is right, His servants make but a pretence of responding to His appeals. How shall it be possible, in such case, to roll back the spread of multiplied abuse, and to promote the cause of righteous government? Let the Ministers of the Grand Council of State and the high functionaries at the head either of the central departments or of provincial governments henceforward hold themselves bound to aim vigorously at a just and loyal discharge of their duty, shrinking from no encounter with unpopularity or ill-will. In the grave questions relating to the bestowal of public employ and the exercise of the functions of administration, let them duly scrutinize the reality of all pretensions, and bring a careful judgment to bear upon the decision of every point, making themselves in this wise an example to their subordinates. The functionaries of the public service in general, throughout the Empire, should furthermore exert themselves with industry in their respective spheres. Let them not indulge in illusory pretence and practice of dishonest misrepresentation, continuing to tread in the path of the evil habits that have hitherto prevailed. In that which concerns the Yamèn of Foreign Affairs, whose position connects it with the external interests of the State, the conduct of international questions depends in a signal degree upon its selection of agents and the trust it reposes in its representatives. It is the duty of the heads of this department to bring scrutiny to bear upon abilities and character, and to give employment

in proportion to individual capacity. Let them laxly suffer none who can be characterized as frivolous, corrupt, or unworthy, to gain admittance in their ranks, and thus to entail detriment upon the public cause.

With reference to the proposals set forth in the Grand Tutor's supplementary memorials, recommending that measures be devised for the instruction and education of members of the Imperial kindred, and that exemption from *lekin* taxation be granted in perpetuity in favour of all kinds of grain, let the departments concerned consider and report to Us.

(2) A decree based upon a memorial from Li King-ngao, Governor of Honan, who has submitted a report upon the extent of the famine-stricken area in his province, and solicited sanction for the official issue of relief. The application is acceded to, and it is commanded that in the 23 departments (*chow*) and districts (*hien*) enumerated in the memorial, rations for one month be in the first instance issued. The following scale is farther to be observed. Where the distress reaches the extent of 90 per cent. (of intensity?) subsistence for three months is to be granted to the most destitute, and for two months to those who are reduced to a less degree of destitution. Where the distress is rated at 70 or 80 per cent., the scale as above is to be applied for two months and one month respectively; and where it stands at 60 per cent., one month's subsistence is to be granted to the most destitute. One month's rations are to be bestowed upon the villages where the famine rate stands at 50 per cent. In the two Districts

of T'ang-yin 湯陰 and Lin 林 (prefecture of Chang-têh Fu), irrespectively of the question of famine-rate or of the degree of individual distress, two months' rations are to be bestowed upon all alike. Three other *hien*, namely, the Hih, Sin-hiang, and Hwei districts, forming part of Wei-hwei Fu, are named as requiring no relief-measures. The subsistence issued is to be distributed as the regulations provide, in accordance with the recognized famine-rate, and the Governor is authorized to cause this to be proceeded with in the districts and villages enumerated in the list he has submitted, taking care to provide against malpractices on the part of the official underlings employed in the service.

Nov. 8th.—(1) A decree in answer to a memorial from Liu Ch'ang-yao, Governor-General of Yunnan, &c., who has submitted recommendations on behalf of sundry officials for services rendered in the capture of Chang Ch'ung-yang, a leader of train-bands in Yün Chow, and the destruction of his insurgent following. The promotions solicited are accorded.

(2) A decree commanding a fourth series of propitiatory services to be held on the 10th inst., at the various State temples, for the purpose of supplicating rain on behalf of the afflicted provinces.

(3) Ting Pao-chêng, Governor-General of Szech'wan, memorializes reporting the re-hearing of a case referred back for trial after appeal at Peking. By decree dated March 25th, 1875, the complaint lodged by one Hu Shun-hing, on behalf of the appellants, Kiang Ch'un-mow and others, was referred back for provincial investigation, the particulars of the case (see *Gazette* of April 7th, 1875) relating to alleged acts of extortion and oppression on the part of the Magistrate of the department of P'ei Chow. The memorialist now reports that the individual named Hu Shun-hing has appeared before the commission appointed to investigate the charges preferred, and has declared that the appellant, Kiang Ch'un-mow, a military licentiate who had been deprived of his grade, had trumped up the allegations set forth in his appeal in order to satisfy a grudge he bore against the district authorities for refusing him a place in the

local tax-collectorate, and had unauthorisedly added the names of the district notables to his own as answerable for the appeal. He had hired deponent to go with him to Peking, in order to appear as attorney on his behalf for the presentation of the appeal at the Censorate; but subsequently to the examination which was held thereupon, being short of funds for travelling expenses, he sent deponent back to Szech'wan and personated him as the individual sent back in custody to prosecute the appeal according to regulation. A communication has, furthermore, been received from the Governor of Shansi declaring that Kiang Ch'un-mow died from the effects of illness whilst on the journey, on the 19th April, 1875, in the K'i district in that province. The result of the investigation now held entirely disproves the allegation advanced in his petition of appeal; and sentence is recorded against him, according to law, of banishment to a distant frontier, for the offence of bringing charges, proved groundless, against persons exceeding ten in number. Being deceased, however, his case requires no farther consideration, his family being authorized, however, if they see fit, to reclaim and bring back the coffin containing his remains from Shansi. The witnesses have been released, and those who have not appeared are granted exemption.—Rescript: Let the Board of Punishments consider and report to Us.

Nov. 9th.—(1) A decree referring for consideration on the part of the Imperial Clan Court and the Board of Revenue, the proposals laid before the Throne by the supervising Censor Li Hung-mo, to the effect that provision should be made for the support of the Imperial clansmen (*tsung-shih*), with a view to the proper maintenance of the foundations of the State. (N.B. The *tsung-shih* referred to are the very large body of individuals who are so unfortunate as to be descended in remote degrees from scions of the Imperial house. Whilst debarred from earning a livelihood in honest pursuits, the pensions doled out to them, diminishing in amount at each successive generation, are insufficient for their support, and as a natural consequence, crime and misconduct are rife among them, as the pages of the *Gazette* frequently make known.)

(2) A decree cashiering or degrading a long list of district officials in Yunnan, on impeachment by the Governor-General Liu Ch'ang-yao, for misconduct or incapacity.

(3) The Censor She T'ai memorializes representing, with reference to the expenditure for the making of roadways and repairs of bridges on the line between Peking and the Imperial Mausolea, that whatever works of this description were necessary during the reign of Tao Kwang (i.e., prior to 1850), the amount of outlay reported on each occasion did not exceed Tls. 10,000 in any of the districts traversed on the road to the Western Hills. On the eastern road, moreover, the accounts sent in from the various districts were on an average about Tls. 3,000 to Tls. 4,000 in each district. This was the settled rule for many years. Of late, however, according to the memorialist's information, the clerks of the Roads and Bridges department in the Board of Works are in the habit of controlling a monopoly of the contract undertakings on occasions of the kind, with the result that the outlay has been swelled to upwards of Tls. 20,000 in each of the districts traversed. The memorialist apprehends that abuses of this kind may be forthcoming in connection with the two lines of roadway recently constructed for the conveyance of the remains of the lately deceased Imperial concubines to their respective resting-places; and he asks that injunctions be laid upon the Board of Works to take measures for keeping the Expenditure within its former limits.—For rescript see *Gazette* of 27th

October. (N.B.—Two lines of road, each upwards of 100 miles in length, were levelled and repaired a month or two ago, to facilitate the progress of the coffins of two of the Imperial concubines, one belonging to the seraglio of Tao-kwang, and the other to that of Hien-feng, who died at about the same time, to the Mausolea at the Eastern and Western Hills respectively.)

(4) Ch'ung How, acting Governor-General of Feng-tien, memorializes submitting the result of the trial of a lunatic for the murder of his father and two other persons. The accused, named Ku San, was a deaf and dumb idiot, aged 28, who lived with his father and his married cousin and her husband in a village of the Siu-yen department. On a certain night in August last the accused, in some unexplained access of madness, seized an iron hoe and hacked the three persons above-named, beginning with his father, to death. The facts having been established by the evidence of witnesses, the accused has been sentenced to suffer death by the "slow and disgraceful" process (slicing in pieces) for the crime of parricide, which sentence has been carried out, according to law, at the scene of the crime.

(5) The Censor She T'ai memorializes observing that, in consequence of the drought experienced in the province of Chihli, the prices of rice have gone up, and that steps should be taken to mitigate the suffering consequently experienced by the crowded population of Peking. Some twenty or twenty-five years ago, in consequence of the financial exigency of the period, the issue of rations in kind to the Banner soldiery was in part commuted for money payments; but of late years the grain of the southern provinces has been enabled to reach Peking, and the granaries of the capital may be said to be abundantly stocked. There is an excess, annually, after the issue of all the various quantities by way of rations, to the amount of several tens of thousands of piculs; and it may be feared that deterioration in quality will ensue if these stocks be laid up for any great length of time. The memorialist therefore prays that the proportion in which the allowances are issued in grain to the Banner soldiery may be augmented by some 10 or 20 per cent., as a means of lowering the market price of rice.—Referred by rescript already published for consideration on the part of the Board of Revenue.

Nov. 10th.—(1) A decree referring to the proper Boards for consideration a memorial presented by the police Censors of the Central division of Peking, urging that additional incentives in the shape of honorary rewards be held out to the notables engaged in conducting the work of household registration.

(2) A decree permitting Wen Che 文治, Assistant Supervisor of Instruction, to resign his office on the ground of ill-health.

(3) A decree in answer to a memorial from Li Han-chang, Governor-General of the two Hu provinces, who has denounced an ex-District Magistrate, living in retirement at his native place, of heading a factious opposition on the part of his clansfolk against the levy of the land-tax due by them. The offender is ordered to be deprived forthwith of his rank and proceeded against according to law.

(4) A decree granting a donation of Tls. 3,600 from the funds of the Imperial household to provide a supply of wadded clothing for the destitute poor of Peking, as solicited by the police Censors in conformity with previous precedent.

(5) The Censor Tung Tsun-han memorializes urging the re-introduction of the system of household registration as a police measure at Peking, in view of the great amount of daring crime that has lately been prevalent and that is threatened by the agency of a secret society of malefactors, known as the *K'an Tao Hwei* or

Chopper Society, members of which have established themselves, he is informed, at Peking. He lays particular stress upon the necessity of closing all gambling-houses and opium-shops, as the common resort of thieves and bad characters.—For rescript see *Gazette* of 24th October.

Nov. 11th.—A decree based upon a memorial from the Governor of Shensi, who has represented the necessity of postponing the collection of the land-tax in a number of the districts of that province, owing to the distress which has been caused by the prevailing drought. The usual Spring rains failed at the proper time, and the second wheat crop gave but a scanty yield in consequence. Throughout the summer the drought has been still more intense, and in view of the suffering thus entailed upon the people, the institution of measures to relieve them from the immediate pressure of taxation is urgently called for. It is decreed, hereupon, that in 15 departments and districts north of the river Wei, and in 33 other divisions of the province, which are severally enumerated, the arrears of land-tax due for the latter half of last year, together with some other arrears, shall be postponed until after the spring harvest of 1878, when they are to be collected in addition to the taxes then falling due. Proclamations to this effect are to be posted throughout the Province, and care is to be taken to guard against malpractices on the part of the official underlings.

Nov. 12th.—(1) A decree. Let Poh Jun 博潤 succeed to the post of Prefect of Sung-kiang Fu in Kiangsu.

(2) Tseng Kwoh-ts'ian, Governor of Shansi, lays before the Throne a report in outline of the measures devised for the relief of the distress prevailing in consequence of drought, on receipt of the statements forwarded from the various local authorities to the provincial government, shewing that no less than seventy-six sub-prefectures, departments, and districts are labouring under the visitation of actual famine. The memorialist repeats the heartrending description he has already given, in previous representations on the same subject, of the almost universal dearth and suffering experienced throughout his province, things having gone from bad to worse since the period of his accession to office in the Spring. He recapitulates the various measures which have lately been announced by decree for the relief of the famine-stricken population, stating that he has sent agents to Manchuria and to the rice-producing district about Kwei-hwa Ch'eng to buy grain with the funds provided, but he adds that all the hopes that had been entertained of an autumn harvest of buckwheat and other minor foodstaples have been extinguished by the continued drought, and that it has not even been possible to get the seed into the ground for the autumn sowing. Whenever clouds have gathered with the promise of heavy rain, they have been dispersed by gales of wind, and the showers that have fallen have been too slight to do much good. At the provincial capital, the tael of silver exchanges for no more than 1,300 to 1,400 cash, whilst rice is at 2,400 to 2,500 cash per *tow* (equal probably to about 10 catties). In the southern districts, the tael of pure silver exchanges for only 1,100 and odd cash, and the commercial tael for no more than 900 and odd cash, whilst the price of rice is upwards of two taels of silver per *tow*. The first essential in the measures for famine relief, the memorialist would observe, is the transportation of supplies, and in the present instance the great extent of country affected and the long duration of the drought have combined to strip the southern section of the province absolutely bare. There remain neither the bark of trees nor the roots of wild herbs to be eaten, and ordinary

food supplies have absolutely disappeared. The land is filled with the sound of lamentations, and the corpses of those who have perished of starvation by the waysides are to be seen on every hand. Words are wanting to describe the awful extent of the calamity. The most active efforts are being made to bring forward supplies of grain from various quarters as above-mentioned; and applications will shortly be submitted, on receipt of the necessary returns, for exemptions and postponements of taxation in the afflicted districts.

Nov. 13th.—Li Hung-chang, Governor-General of Chihli, memorializes reporting the measures he has adopted, under Imperial orders, in connection with the provision of relief for the districts afflicted with scarcity around Peking and for the province of Shansi. He acknowledges the receipt of a decree forwarded to him on the 23rd ult. by a Council despatch, which was based upon a memorial presented by a member of the Hanlin College named Ho Kin-show, who had urged the speedy provision of a substantial amount of funds to enable grain to be purchased and issued at a reduced price; and he proceeds to observe that the provinces of Chihli, Shansi, and Honan have suffered this year under a protracted drought, Shansi being the province in which the severest degree of the calamity has been experienced, and in which, also, scarcity and dearth have reached the highest point. As immediately adjoining the domain of the Imperial capital, at the same time, the province of Chihli also demands attention in the shape of relief measures. The recommendations submitted by Ho Kin-show, tending to a distribution of grain at reduced rates, are prompted undoubtedly by a wise foresight, and it is undeniable that the system in question has always been regarded as occupying a foremost place in the measures called for in seasons of flood or drought. Already, in September last, the memorialist despatched agents to Manchuria, as he reported at the time to the Throne, to make purchases of food supplies; but, as regards the proposal advanced by Ho Kin-show, that the memorialist should advance from his provincial Treasury some 200,000 to 300,000 Taels, and should negotiate a foreign loan in addition, to make up the total to Tls. 1,000,000, such an amount as this, as is observed with perfect truth in his Majesty's sacred commands, is not easily got together at a moment's notice. A sum of Tls. 110,000 was some time ago provided by the provincial authorities at Tientsin and Pauting Fu, and sanction has now further been applied for in a separate memorial to appropriate an additional Tls. 100,000 from the fund accumulated in copper cash for the military chest of the field force in Chihli, making a total of Tls. 210,000, the whole of which is to be devoted to the requirements of the province of Chihli, apart from all that is being done on behalf of Shansi and Peking itself. As regards the question of a foreign loan, to negotiate such an arrangement is a matter of exceeding difficulty, and the interest required, besides, is very heavy. Such a proposal may therefore be dismissed from consideration. With reference to the suggestion that the memorialist should despatch agents to Shanghai, Manchuria, Tung-ch'ang Fu (in Shantung) and Jeh-ho, to buy up grain, and should establish a forwarding depot at Tientsin, placing agencies at T'ai-yüan and P'ing-yang in Shansi, and at K'ai-feng and Hwai-king in Honan, for the sale of supplies at reduced rates, with a staff of officials to manage the undertaking and other officials to superintend the transport, besides establishing an agency at Peking for the issue of grain on the same system—the scale of the operations thus contemplated is far too extensive, and neither the money nor the men available would suffice to meet its requirements. The

details of the proposed scheme, moreover, are not in all respects free from objection. Tung-ch'ang Fu, one of the localities specified, has itself suffered from drought, and there is no grain to be purchased in that part of the country; whilst Jeh-ho lies at a great distance off, and the river Lan is at present with difficulty navigable. A demand exists in that region, moreover, for grain to supply the requirements of the Manchurian garrison soldiery. The resource most available is after all to be found in the pulse and millet crops of Manchuria, and in the rice of the southern provinces. Coming to the question whether the requirements of Shansi and Honan had best be met by the despatch of supplies from the side of Chihli, it is necessary to consider the nature of the prevailing circumstances, and to ascertain the prices of foodstuffs and the cost of transport, in order to enable an opinion to be properly formed. The memorialist has learnt by enquiry from the officials deputed from Honan to visit Tientsin that the following are the market prices of grain, other than rice, which prevail in that province at present. Millet

(*siao mi*, 小米, *setaria italica*) is purchased by the commercial tow measure at 190 catties to the *tan* (picul), at the rate of 6,300 cash, or something over Tls. 4.2 per picul, which makes the picul of 140 odd catties, at the Government tow measure, come to about Tls. 3.2. Kao-liang (Barbadoes millet, *sorghum vulgare*) sells at 4,400 to 4,500 cash per picul of 180 catties, or about 3 Taels in silver; which, at the Government tow measure, making the picul contain some 130 and odd catties, is equal to about Tls. 2.2. In Manchuria, the common millet or *siao mi* may be bought at Tls. 2.4 per picul, Government rate, and Barbadoes millet at Tl. 1.4 per picul. From this it appears that in Honan the price of each of these descriptions of grain is only some 8 mace per picul higher than it is in Manchuria. Were supplies to be purchased from the provincial funds of Chihli and forwarded to various distributing agencies for sale, the prime cost would be enhanced by the expenses of sea transport from Manchuria to Tientsin, transportation by canal to Wei-hwei, and carriage by road to Hwai-king, and the total amount involved by way of freight and cartage, expenses of administration, transshipment, and escort, would be found to reach something like 1 Tael per picul, or more than the difference in the prevailing market-prices in Honan. Under these circumstances it would scarcely be possible to make sales at reduced rates. It is reported, moreover, that there is barely more than a foot of water in the Yellow River below Tao K'ow 道口 in the province

above-named, so that grain-laden vessels would not be able to navigate this channel, and there would be more than 200 *li* of land transport, consequently, to face, entailing a heavy addition to the cost of moving supplies. Neither would it be advisable to attempt the shipment of grain by sea to the mouth of the Ta Ts'ing Ho, that is to say, the new mouth of the Yellow River, with the view of reaching K'ai-feng Fu by this means. Sea-going vessels are unable to enter the Yellow River, and in the absence of tow-paths it would be difficult in the extreme to drag country boats up against the stream, whilst the numerous shallows to be encountered would be a continual source of obstruction. The memorialist, who made use of the Ta Ts'ing Ho for the transport of munitions of war during his campaign against the Nien Fei in Shantung (ten years ago), knows full well what difficulties are to be looked for in that quarter. He would observe that in certain parts of the province of Honan, such as Kwei-t'eh and Ch'ên Chow, there has been a middling yield from the autumn harvest, and in the departments of

Tsining and Teao-chow (in Shantung), and Ying-chow, and Show-chow (in Ngan-lwei), all bordering upon Honan, there has also been a harvest. In Ts'ao-chow the Yellow River is accessible, and in Ying-chow and Show-chow there are the Hwai Ho and the Sha Ho open as means for the conveyance of supplies. In previous memorials, the importance of economizing in the matter of transport has already been dwelt upon; and it has to be observed, in addition, that the agent sent by the Governor of Honan to Tientsin took away some time ago the Tls. 60,000 which were ordered to be appropriated to that province, whilst a request for the payment of the balance due has just come to hand, which serves to prove that there must be supplies available for purchase in that province. It is not necessary, therefore, that the government of Chihli should undertake to provide them. As regards the state of affairs in Shansi, the region there affected is of great extent, and the adjacent provinces, also, are themselves afflicted with scarcity. The Governor writes that millet (*siao mi*) is selling at the rate of Tls. 14.6 per picul of 290 catties, or say Tls. 7.3 per Government picul; and Kao-liang millet at Tls. 7.3 per picul of 240 catties, which is equal to Tls. 4.1 per Government picul. The cost of common millet is consequently upwards of Tls. 4 per picul higher in Shansi than in Honan, and that of Kao-liang millet Tls. 1.9 per picul higher. The proportion, as compared with the prices in Manchuria, is Tls. 4.9 and Tls. 2.7 higher per picul, respectively. The cost of transport from Tientsin, in view of the great distance to be traversed, and the difficulties of the road, will be immense, but there is no alternative, and every effort must be brought to bear to afford the assistance needed. Under the memorialist's orders, the managers of the China Merchants' Company have already provided, from funds got together at successive intervals, the amount of 18,000 piculs of rice, which have been shipped, partly by the Ts'ing Ho to Pauting Fu, and partly by the Grand Canal to P'eh-t'ow Chên in the Kiao-ho district, from whence the supplies will be carted to Hwai-luh Hien (on the Shansi border.) At this place an agency has been established by the government of Shansi to take charge of the grain and transport it to T'ai-yüan Fu and other parts of the province, for issue at reduced rates. This system is already efficiently at work. For the relief of the western divisions of Shansi, lying from 200 to 300 miles westward of the provincial capital, and separated from it by the high range of mountains called the Han How Ling, where the scarcity and dearth are the most severely felt, 7,000 piculs of grain have already been got together by contributions raised at the instance of Wu Ta-ch'eng, the official detached from Peking for service in the famine-relief administration under the memorialist's direction, and this quantity has been sent forward to the suffering region. Wu Ta-ch'eng is devoting himself indefatigably to the work. For the relief of distress in the immediate neighbourhood of Peking, the managers of the China Merchants' Company, the Taotais Chu K'ing-ang and Tong King-sing have provided funds for the purchase of supplies of rice in the South, which are to be delivered at Tientsin before the river closes; and the same officials will establish a forwarding depot at Tung Chow and an agency at Peking for the sale of the grain at reduced rates. Unprincipled monopolists will by this means be prevented from maintaining exorbitant prices. The arrangement is one of an ordinary commercial nature, and the memorialist submits that it should be left to be conducted by the officials above-named, and that there is no necessity to appoint any of the Peking functionaries to interfere with them. He accordingly lays the foregoing general report

of the measures he has adopted before the Throne.—Rescript: We highly approve the resolutions taken. Let further steps be proceeded with as circumstances may direct when the supplies of grain arrive.

(2) Li Hung-chang reports, in a post-script memorial, the receipt of a despatch from the Yamén of Foreign Affairs with reference to a late student of the *T'ung Wen Kwan* (School of Foreign Languages) named Ch'ang Siu, 長秀, who, during the ten or twelve years he has spent in that establishment, has acquitted himself very creditably. He has lately been placed on the roster for service in Chihli as an expectant District Magistrate, and the Yamén asks that on his reporting himself at the provincial capital he may be sent back to the School. The official in question has reported himself at the provincial capital, and has been found to be very fairly proficient in his knowledge of a foreign language. In view of the fact that there are a great variety of foreign questions to be dealt with by the memorialist in his capacity as Superintendent of Trade for the Northern ports, it is submitted that by employing Ch'ang Siu in the foreign affairs department of the provincial government the knowledge he has acquired would not be thrown away, whilst he would, at the same time, be in a position to familiarize himself with administrative duties. It is requested, therefore, that he may be retained at Tientsin for duty there; and a despatch to this effect is addressed to the Yamén.—Rescript: It is noted. (Note.—The individual above referred to, a Peking bannerman, is understood to be one of two students of the School of Languages who have graduated of late at the metropolitan Examinations, and have thus become eligible for official employment in the ordinary course.)

Public Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council, held in the Council Room, 17, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Monday, the 19th November, 1877, at 9.30 o'clock a.m.

Present.—Messrs. J. Hart (Chairman), G. J. W. Cowie, J. Bell Irving, E. H. Lavers, E. G. Low, A. McLeod, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of the previous meeting are read, confirmed, and passed for publication.

Cash Statement, for week ending 17th inst., is submitted for publication, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Pontoons.—Resolved to invite tenders for an iron pontoon, to replace that at the end of Ming-hong Road, reported rotten and not worth repair.

Lighting.—The bad lighting of the Settlement is under discussion, and a full report is called for.

Amusements.

MR. IBURG'S FIRST POPULAR CONCERT.

This concert was given at the Masonic Hall on Tuesday evening, and was well attended, the audience comprising nearly two hundred, among whom, however, there were scarcely a dozen ladies, a paucity much to be regretted. The hall, nevertheless, looked bright and cheerful, and the new raised seats are an acquisition, upon the possession of which the Brethren of the mystic craft are to be congratulated, for the cogent reason that they render the hall complete in its fittings and in every way suitable for musical and other purposes. Formerly, an objection was raised to the giving of concerts in the Masonic Hall, owing to what were termed defects in its

acoustic properties; but last night, as, in fact, on the night of the performance of "The Creation," the alleged defects had so far disappeared as to be unnoticeable—on Tuesday evening both voices and instruments were heard without any of that reverberation which was alleged to have militated greatly against the use of the hall for musical purposes. The numerous audience of course might have had something to do with this, and the removal of the organ to a position under the arch, where it undoubtedly acts as a damper to the recurrence of sound, no doubt aids or perhaps causes the improvement. The hall, too, was comfortably warm, and the music throughout being of a high class, those who were absent certainly missed a treat, of which, latterly, residents in the Settlements have not had too many.

The programme opened with a sonata for violin, composed by Corelli in the year 1700, and comprising three movements. The ancient notes were played by Mr. Iburg in his usual masterly style, and although he was not encored (encores, indeed, being scarce throughout the evening—a fact not to be lamented when it is stated that without the concert did not terminate till 11.20), it was evident from the applause bestowed that an occasional call upon this and other older *Mestros* would not be unacceptable at our local concerts, when played as this sonata was.—A song for baritone, "O weine nicht" (*Kücken*), introduced a gentleman new to a Shanghai audience. The singer made a favourable impression, his voice being of rich quality and evidencing careful training not only in its use, but in the true rendering of the music to be sung. The length of the song alone prevented an encore.—A concert for violin (*allegro ma non troppo*) by Beethoven, followed, Mr. Iburg's solo and leading parts being skillfully rendered; the subsidiary parts and accompaniments, played on piano, flute, violins, violas, and violoncello, being also well given and listened to with rapt attention to the close. It was a fine piece of instrumentation throughout.—The first part of the programme concluded with an aria for bass from "L'Africaine" (*Meyerbeer*), sung by an amateur of whose excellent vocalisation we have had frequent occasion to speak, and whom it is impossible to hear too often. A slight huskiness at times on Tuesday night rather interfered with some of his middle and upper notes, but the enjoyment of the audience was nevertheless complete, and they almost insisted on an encore, but accepted the singer's seeming indisposition to reappear.

The second part opened with a couple of choruses, (*Liedertafel Germania*), which were an excellent break in the scheme of the programme, and, being well sung, afforded much pleasure.—A cavatina for flute (*Clinton*) followed, played by a gentleman whose mastery over this most pleasing of chamber instruments might be termed almost perfect. The clear, bell-like tones, even in the most rapid passages of *crescendo* and *diminuendo*, were rendered with admirable skill, and there is little doubt that continued and careful practice will give the player no mean place in the ranks of those flautists who have succeeded the Richardsons, senior and junior. An encore was insisted on, the player substituting a selection from "Un Ballo in Maschera," which was equally well received.—A *lieder* cyclus, by Iburg, for bass voice, followed, and was capably sung by the gentleman previously alluded to.—The concert was brought to a conclusion with a fantasia for violin, from "Norma" (*Alard*), played by Mr. Iburg in a style scarcely to be surpassed, the familiar airs falling on the ear with a distinctness and accuracy as if the notes on this most difficult of instruments had been made for the player. Higher praise cannot be given than was due for this skillful performance. It would be wrong to close without a word

of commendation to the gentlemen who alternately played the piano accompaniments; in no single instance was the piano permitted to overwhelm the air—an obligation too often overlooked by professional pianists.—The concert altogether was very successful.

YOKOHAMA RACE CLUB AUTUMN MEETING.

Third Day, 9th November.

1.—HURDLE RACE.—Value, \$75. For all Ponies; over six hurdles; China Ponies, 10st. 7lbs.; Japan Ponies, 10st. Entrance, \$5. Once round and a distance.

Mr. Mason's *Liddesdale*, 10st. 7lbs. ... 1
" J. Peel's *Annandale*, 10st. 0lb. 2
" Stevens' *Satisfaction*, 10st. 7lbs. 3
Col. Forrester's *Doncaster*, 10st. 7lbs. 0
Won by a head. Time, 2 min. 43 secs.

2.—THE MERCHANTS' CUP.—A handicap for all China Pony winners at the meeting. To be handicapped by the Stewards at the close of the second day's racing. Entrance, \$5. Compulsory. Open also to beaten Ponies at the meeting. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Morrison's *Hoolet*, 11st. 4lbs. 1
" J. Peel's *Bonny Doon*, 11st. 10lbs. 2
" P. Kells' *Vandal*, 10st. 8lbs. 3
" Savile's *Crusader*, 10st. 7lbs. 0
Won by two lengths. Time, 2 min. 47½ secs.

3.—THE NIPPON HANDICAP.—A handicap for all Japan Pony winners at the meeting. To be handicapped by the Stewards at the close of the second day's racing. Entrance, \$5. Compulsory. Open also to beaten Ponies at the meeting. Once round.

Mr. J. Peel's *Ichi Roku*, 10st. 7lbs. 1
" Morrison's *Distemper*, 10st. 12lbs. 2
" Pringle's *Planet*, 10st. 3lbs. 3
" Stevens' *Ezile*, 10st. 3lbs. 0
" Fritz's *Fleurs de Lys*, 10st. 0
Won by two lengths. Time, 2 min. 19½ secs.

4.—THE SCURRY STAKES.—For all Ponies; weight as per scale. Entrance, \$5. Three furlongs.

Mr. Morrison's *Braemar*, 10st. 8lbs. ... 1
" Savile Stuart's *Talisman*, 10st. 5lbs. 2
" Fritz's *Faust*, 10st. 5lbs. 3
" J. Peel's *Ichi Roku*, 10st. 6lbs. 0
Won by four lengths. Time, 46 secs.

5.—THE CHINA CONSOLATION PLATE.—For all beaten China Ponies at the meeting; weight for inches. Entrance, \$5. Once round and a distance.

Mr. Savile Stuart's *Not Proven*, 10st. 8lbs. 1
" Do. *Talisman*, 10st. 5lbs. 2
" Fritz's *Don Carlos*, 10st. 5lbs. 3
Won by a head. Time, 2 min. 44½ secs.

6.—THE SOLACE CUP.—For all beaten Japan Ponies at the meeting; weight for inches. Entrance, \$5. Five furlongs.

Mr. Morrison's *Disinfectant*, 10st. 2lbs. 1
" Pringle's *Planet*, 10st. 6lbs. 2
" Mason's *Silverspring*, 10st. 8lbs. 3
Won by a length and a half. Time, 1 min. 22½ secs.

7.—THE SAYONARA STAKES.—A handicap for all Ponies. To be handicapped by the Stewards at the close of the second day's racing, when entries will be received. Winner of No. 2 (third day) excluded. Winner of the Nippon Handicap, 7lbs. extra. Winner of any other race after publication of the handicap, 3lbs. extra. Entrance, \$10. Once round.

Mr. Morrison's *Braemar* (3lbs. ex.)
11st. 9lbs. 1
" P. Kells' *Vandal*, 10st. 12lbs. 2
" Savile's *Crusader*, 10st. 12lbs. 3
" Morrison's *Lintie*, 11st. 4lbs. 0
" Osborn's *Grey Friar*, 11st. 0
Won easily by two lengths. Time, 2 min. 15 secs.

BETTOS' RACE—China Ponies.—Once round.

Not Proven 1
Lintie 2
Faust 3
Don Carlos 0
Wilhelm Tell 0
Talisman 0
Time, 2 min. 18½ secs.

BETROS' RACE—Japan Ponies.—Five Fur-longs.

Disinfectant	1
Planet	2
Silverspring	3

Time, 1 min. 21 secs.

Miscellaneous.

THE "SINPAO" ON CHINESE IMMIGRANTS IN AUSTRALIA.

The *Sin-pao* constantly inveighs against the cruel and tyrannical oppression of the Chinese by the local authorities in Australia, is specially bitter at the taxation of £10 per head on arrival, and has frequently intimated that it is the duty of the local government to provide the Chinese immigrants with land, houses, food, clothing, &c. It utterly ignores the fact that the Chinese have no treaty right to emigrate to Australia at all, and has not the generosity to recognize that permission to travel in the interior of a country, open mines, dig for gold *ad libitum*, squat and farm, and enjoy the protection of equal laws, is very cheaply purchased at the single payment of ten pounds per head on arrival. On looking at the other side of the picture, it will appear that the classes of our fellow-countrymen nearest approaching to the Chinese immigrants in Australia, are not allowed under any circumstances to visit the interior at all (Vide Art. IX of the Tientsin Treaty); but, rather, rules for their due restraint to be drawn up at the Treaty ports; while, notwithstanding the enormous sums accruing to the Chinese exchequer through the foreign customs and tonnage dues, foreigners are not only prohibited from opening or purchasing mines, or even holding any property whatsoever, such as renting a house and the like in the interior, but they are actually not allowed to make passable roads within easy distances from the Treaty ports. Again, instead of the even-handed justice which (even the *Sin-pao* cannot deny) is enjoyed by the Chinese in Australia, it would seem that in this country it is a point of honor amongst the governing classes to deny justice to foreigners whenever a suitable opportunity may arise. In his trade report for 1875, Sir Walter Medhurst states, under the head of official relations:—"The bearing and policy of the Chinese officials during the year towards the Consul have been very much as usual, courteous as a whole, but obstructive and impracticable in particular cases. The Taotai, although exceptionally intelligent and conversant with foreign affairs, has been apt to take a warped and partial view of Treaty obligations; and in all cases where Chinese have been defendants, that fact alone has sufficed to convince him of the duty of advocating their cause, to the exclusion of all considerations of equity or truth, and all evidence to the contrary notwithstanding."

EXPLOSION ON THE "YESSO."

A gloom was thrown over the town this morning by the occurrence of a terrible accident on the steamer *Yesso*, Captain S. Ashton, from the Coast Ports. The vessel was being moored alongside Messrs. Douglas, Lapraik & Co.'s wharf, between half-past seven and eight o'clock, the pressure of steam at the time being 14 lbs., when one of the back plates of the boiler gave way and was blown out. The steam rushed into the Chinese cabin and fore-castle, and worked terrible havoc there. Twelve men were killed on the spot, and sixty-four have been taken to the Hospital, the injuries of many of them being very serious. About thirty more also injured were taken toward West Point, evidently to the Tung-wah Hospital. Only one European was hurt, the second engineer, Mr. W. Haggart, who, however, is not very seriously injured. It was a

ghastly sight to see the dead and wounded lying about, and crowds soon collected round the steamer and at the doors of the Civil Hospital and the dead house. All the corridors in the Hospital were filled with the wounded, whose piteous cries and groans resounded on all sides, and made up a most distressing scene. As soon as the Admiral heard of the accident he signalled for all the men-of-war doctors to render medical assistance, which they promptly did. Assistance in removing the bodies and extricating was afforded by a number of gentlemen who hastened to the scene. The general cry amongst the scalded was "Sui." The number of Chinese brought down by the *Yesso* was a hundred and seventy-two. Two old women had the presence of mind to wrap themselves up in their bed clothes, and thereby escaped injury, while many round about them were badly scalded. One Chinese family who were in a cabin between decks had the forethought to shut the door, which kept the steam out, and they escaped unhurt. Numbers of those who were scalded were coolies who rushed on board to obtain a job to carry the luggage for the passengers. The bulkhead on the end of the boiler is partly blown down, and the tea, which was stowed in the forehold, was scattered in all directions in the hold. The boiler was built in Hongkong about three years and a-half ago.—*Daily Press*.

Law Reports.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 26th Nov.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Deputy Acting Judge.

P. WESTERMARK v. H. LONGMAN.

Plaintiff sued to recover \$111.56, balance of account for board and lodging; and in his petition stated that he was a Swedish subject, and a publican at Shanghai. The defendant is a British subject, and employed as third officer on the opium receiving-ship *Emily Jane*, at Shanghai. That between 1874 and 1876, the plaintiff at times and at the request of the defendant advanced to him and paid on his account, for his boarding and lodging at the Cosmopolitan Tavern, Hongkew, of which the plaintiff is proprietor, money to the amount of \$230.56, according to the account annexed, which sum the defendant acknowledged and agreed to liquidate by instalments of Tls. 10 per month. He continued to do this from the 4th of October, 1876, to the 1st June, 1877, since which date he has not paid anything to the plaintiff. On being applied to for money, he refused to pay any more unless compelled to do so.—Plaintiff therefore prayed that defendant be ordered to pay the amount sued for, with interest to date, and the costs of this action.

The defendant, in his answer, set forth that the amount of money stated in the plaintiff's petition, \$230.56, was in excess by \$35.—That on or about the 4th of October, 1876, a pressure of circumstances caused the defendant to sign a document promising to pay to the plaintiff Tls. 10 per month; but defendant denied that he acknowledged himself indebted to the plaintiff to the amount he had stated.—That plaintiff, on or about the 1st February, 1876, signed a guarantee at the Imperial Japanese Consulate at Shanghai, binding himself to provide for and maintain the defendant for six months following the above-named date, if the defendant should be unable to provide for and maintain himself during that time.—That plaintiff, on the 20th March, 1876, turned defendant out of his (plaintiff's) house in a destitute condition, knowing that defendant had no money, and not knowing or caring where or how defendant was to procure food or lodging.—That plaintiff, by his act on the 20th March, 1876, as above stated, breaking his guarantee and turning defendant into the streets of Shanghai in a destitute condition, has forfeited all legal moral right to, and has no legal right to, institute any action, suit, or petition against the defendant in this honorable Court, nor any other Court at any place

in the world.—The defendant therefore prayed that the plaintiff's petition be dismissed forthwith, and that all costs incurred by plaintiff, in connexion with his petition, be charged to and borne by the said plaintiff.—That defendant may have such further and other relief as to your honourable Court may seem meet.

His LORDSHIP, after perusing the petition and answer, said it seemed to him that the first question that arose was whether the defendant acknowledged the debt of \$230.56, for board and lodging, and that some time in October, 1876, he agreed to liquidate that debt by instalments of Tls. 10 per month. What was the evidence of the admission of the debt?

Plaintiff produced a promissory note signed by the defendant, for the amount above-mentioned.

Defendant, questioned, admitted that the signature to the document was his, but said that pressure of circumstances compelled him to sign it. He was able to explain that in this manner. The document was already written, and was brought to him in his dinner hour to sign. He signed it in his dinner hour, when he was pressed for time. He had been promoted just about the same date, and was persuaded by some friends to sign it, so that he might not be exposed in print. At the same time, the friends whom he consulted advised him that plaintiff had no claim upon him, by reason of his turning him out of his house.

His LORDSHIP asked if legal proceedings had been previously taken by plaintiff against the defendant, in regard to the same debt?

Defendant said that plaintiff commenced an action against him in September, 1876, to which his (defendant's) reply was nearly the same as to the present. In October, he received promotion, with an increase of pay of Tls. 15 per month, and could better afford to agree to pay Tls. 10 per month to the plaintiff, and did so.

His LORDSHIP—And upon your agreeing to liquidate your debt in that manner, the plaintiff agreed to the compromise, and stopped the action?

Defendant—He did.

His LORDSHIP—Now, after an interval of more than a year, do you wish to turn round and say plaintiff has no claim against you?

Defendant (without hesitation)—Yes, Sir.

His LORDSHIP—If you make a compromise with a man, and turn round a long time afterwards and say he has no claim, it seems hardly fair. Who would consent to a compromise, if he was liable to be treated so?

Defendant—I want to explain it. He signed a guarantee to keep me for six months, and then turned me out, after six weeks, in a destitute condition. I have been advised that he has no legal claim upon me in consequence.

His LORDSHIP—Let me hear the plaintiff's statement.

Plaintiff, sworn, deposed—I keep the Cosmopolitan Tavern. I brought a suit against the defendant first, a little over twelve months ago. I filed the petition on September 18th, 1876. My claim was \$230.50, in respect of board and lodging supplied to the defendant. The case did not come on for hearing; defendant came to me, and asked me to come to some arrangement, as he was then in Municipal employ, and if it became public, he might get turned out. He offered to settle the debt by paying me Tls. 10 per month, and on the same day he paid me \$15 on account. I agreed to the proposition, and he signed a document (produced.) That was two days before the date fixed for the hearing. Afterwards, he paid me \$13 per month (as being an equivalent for Tls. 10) from that time until the month of June last. He had paid me \$10 before I sued the first time. He paid me \$119 between October, 1876, and June, 1877; leaving a balance due of \$111.56, which I now sue for. In July last, he was out of employment again, and I did not ask him for any more money so long as he was unemployed—nor until the present month, November. He was then, and is now, in employment; but he told me he would not pay me anything more until the law compelled him to do so.

Defendant—I have said in my answer that the original bill was \$35 too much; but I wish your Lordship to let the question of amount stand over until the question is proved whether I ought to pay him anything at all—whether I am liable.

His LORDSHIP—But here is the document you signed acknowledging the full amount of the debt. You say plaintiff undertook to maintain you for six months, and that he has not done so. I cannot see that that would extinguish a large debt.

Defendant—The way to get it would have been to have kept me in the house, and not turned me into the street.

His LORDSHIP—You might have been entitled to have gone somewhere else to board and lodge, and then have deducted what it cost you from his claim; but his turning you out could not extinguish his claim altogether.

Defendant—I question if he is not liable to an action by the Japanese Consul now. He has broken faith with him by not keeping to his agreement to maintain me for six months.

His LORDSHIP—That may or may not be. Do you wish to ask plaintiff any questions?

Defendant—Yes. (To plaintiff)—Did you sign a guarantee at the Japanese Consulate to keep me for six months if I was unable to maintain myself?

Plaintiff—Yes; I signed it in February, 1876.

Defendant was proceeding to put some irrelevant questions to plaintiff, as to the length of time he had "used" the Cosmopolitan, and also as to a running account dating back to 1874, but was told that such questions could not affect the present action at all.

Plaintiff, however, stated that there was a balance due to him by the defendant from March, 1874; defendant paid some off, but still left a balance of \$22.—The effect of the guarantee, which I signed, said the plaintiff, and which was on a printed form, was that defendant should not be any expense to the Japanese Government. He had just been discharged from a Japanese ship, the *Nagoya Maru* (formerly the *Oregonian*), and they do not discharge men without a guarantee of some sort.

By defendant—I told you six weeks afterwards to go and get another place to live in. You then owed me a large amount of money. I told you to leave my house in March. I believed you to be without money then. You owed me \$230.56. I had an idea that you would be able to pay me some time, if you lived. I have no recollection what you mean by your question about cards.

His LORDSHIP—What has that to do with this case?

Defendant—It has a great deal to do with it. He gave me bad whisky enough to make me drunk.

Plaintiff denied this allegation, and went on to explain how he came to turn the defendant out of his house—I went out with a friend for a walk one Sunday morning, locking the front door, and closing the house. Defendant was also out. When I returned, I found defendant mad drunk in the house, that he had beaten the boys, and opened the front door although I had locked it, and by his misconduct had caused a crowd of about 100 foreigners and Chinese to come round the house. I had to send for the Police and give him in charge, but he afterwards begged me to let him off, saying that if it were pressed against him he would not get another situation in Shanghai. Defendant had got in by the side-door. I allowed him to stay in the house till next morning, and then told him as he could not behave himself, to look out for another place. That was the reason I turned him out of my house.

By defendant—The side-door of my house is always open on Sundays; but you opened the front door, after you were in the house. I can tell you who were lodging in the house at the same time you were, by referring to my book.

Defendant—I will refresh your memory; Hoggett and Welsh were staying there. It was about St. Patrick's Day, and Hoggett, being an Irishman, would pay for all the drink. What I drank, I drank in your house, and did not go out of your house to get drunk.

Plaintiff—Yes, you were out of the house. You were driving in a carriage with another person on that day.

Defendant persisted in saying that he got drunk in the plaintiff's house, and that he (plaintiff) gave him very bad whisky—(the seeming inference being that this was done on purpose.) Plaintiff had said that he (defendant) had paid him \$10. If he had spoken the truth, he would have said hundreds of dollars. It was a running account for years, and he wished to meet the plaintiff

in an amicable way when he applied to him for payment. Defendant here called for the production of a letter he had written the plaintiff before legal proceedings were commenced, in which he offered to pay \$5 per month. (Letter produced.)

His LORDSHIP—And plaintiff refused your offer. That does not alter the case at all.

Defendant—Well, I still think, legally, I do not owe him anything. When you turn a man out of your house, you turn his debts out, too.

His LORDSHIP—Then, in that case, you have only to misbehave yourself in a man's house, and get yourself turned out, to rid yourself of your indebtedness to him. That is not so. If the plaintiff's explanation, why he turned you out, is the correct one (and you do not deny it), he was quite justified in turning you out, and you cannot resist his claim on that ground.

Defendant—But I had so much bad whisky in his house that I do not know what I did.

His LORDSHIP—The short answer to your case is that you have admitted your indebtedness to him, and I do not see that any undue or improper pressure was put upon you at all. You make him an offer, and he does not take it. He sues you, and you make him an increased offer, which he accepts, and withdraws his action. Who would make a compromise, if, after twelve months, a man turns round in such a way as this and denies his liability under the new agreement? You should have fought out the matter at the time. Moreover, the person to whom he guaranteed you was the person to bring an action for any expenses that might have been incurred by your going to another house to board and lodge; you could have no claim on the plaintiff. I repeat you signed an agreement to pay this money, and I see no evidence of compulsion in the matter. A compromise would be of no use if a case could be reopened in the way you wish. But for what you did in making him the offer, the plaintiff would have gone on with his action against you. You go to him, and make him an offer, and he withdraws his action.

Defendant (interrupting)—I signed the agreement in a hurry, without reading it. It was signed in one of the offices in this Court.

Plaintiff said that on the previous day to that on which the agreement was signed by defendant, he came to his (plaintiff's) house, and made the offer of Tls. 10 per month. They met by appointment next day in one of the offices of the Court, when defendant signed. Plaintiff wrote the agreement at home, and took it with him.

His LORDSHIP—I have no right to assume that defendant would sign such a paper, containing only five lines of writing, without reading it over first; he does not strike me as being the kind of man to do that. However, there is the document, speaking for itself. If defendant chose to sign such a document with his eyes shut, he had only himself to blame, so long as plaintiff did nothing to compel him to sign.

Defendant (again interrupting) repeated that he signed it in a hurry, and did not read it. He still held that he was not legally indebted to the plaintiff, whose bad whisky had made him drunk, and through which he had been turned out into the streets by the plaintiff. He was not in the habit of getting drunk, and had never been drunk since he left plaintiff's house.

His LORDSHIP—I am very glad to hear it, and hope you will continue so. If the smaller amount you say you are indebted had been inserted in this promissory note, I should have held him to it; but as the larger amount is inserted, and you have signed it, I shall hold you to it. You say, without any pressure from plaintiff, that you owe him that amount of money.

Defendant—Cannot the Japanese Consul come upon him for turning me out?

His LORDSHIP—That is a question between the Japanese Consul and him, and I think he was justified in turning you out. What can you pay now against the balance due upon this note?

Defendant—Nothing now, I have no money.

His LORDSHIP said he was willing to take defendant's assertion that he had no money at present; but the debt must be paid by instalments.

Plaintiff consented to forego his claim for interest.

Defendant—I have had no chance of being examined yet. I wish to prove that I was annoyed by the plaintiff and called "nasty" names by him in his own house. I also wish to show that I am ill, and that I have only small wages.

His LORDSHIP—What wages do you receive? Defendant—\$30 per month, and found; but out of it I have to pay my boy's wages, and medicine, which is expensive.

Plaintiff expressed his willingness to accept Tls. 10 per month, adding that defendant had been within the last day or so promoted from third to second officer, at an increased salary. The former second mate of the *Emily Jane* was paid \$45 per month and found.

Defendant said the plaintiff was fond of law, and he (defendant) hoped the Japanese Consul would be also. If he (defendant) became so ill as to be obliged to go to the Hospital, how would plaintiff get his money then, or if he was discharged from his situation through these proceedings? He did not know but that the latter might be the case. If he was made to pay the plaintiff Tls. 10 per month, he should consider that he was giving it to him as a cumshaw—that it was a regular squeeze.

His LORDSHIP—I do not think plaintiff is asking too much, and I shall make an order upon you for Tls. 10 per month, and you will also have to pay the costs.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, 23rd Nov.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

AH CHING v. J. A. HARVIE.

Plaintiff sought to recover \$23.25, for the alleged hire of a pony.

Defendant denied his liability, pleading that he had nothing personally to do with the matter, beyond acting in it for a friend.

Plaintiff deposed—I am mafuo for a gentleman living in Shanghai. On the 16th of last month, defendant applied to me for a pony for a friend of his, who wanted to buy one. I sent a pony to defendant, on the understanding that his friend would decide about the purchase after two or three days' trial of it. I told defendant that the price would be Tls. 40, and he did not demur. The pony was taken to his friend's house in Hongkew, and remained there until the 17th instant, when I fetched it away. My charge is 75 cents per day for hire. On that day I went to the defendant, and asked him to pay me the Tls. 40 for the pony, and he declined, but referred me to his friend. After that I went and fetched the pony away.

Defendant stated that when he sent the pony to his friend, he also sent a note with it, to the effect, "Herewith one pony; if it suits you, you can buy it." He never undertook to pay for the pony, because he did not know what price his friend would like to give for one. Defendant knew that. His friend had been ill in bed ever since the transaction, and could see no one, which would account for the length of time the pony had been kept. He had told plaintiff his friend was ill, and on Saturday, the 17th inst., when he called, he offered to pay him Tls. 25 on account of the purchase money, leaving the balance to be settled between his friend and the plaintiff. That was all he knew of the matter.

Plaintiff, in reply to a question, admitted that defendant's friend was the person who had used the pony; but he understood the friend had paid the money for it to the defendant.

Defendant denied this assertion; and asked the plaintiff if he was licensed by the Municipal Council to hire ponies, or if his master knew he was in the habit of hiring ponies?

Plaintiff replied in the negative to both questions.

Defendant said that, as he understood, the plaintiff possessed several ponies, which he had bought at auctions; and he called His Honour's attention to the Municipal penalties for letting ponies on hire, the owner not being licensed.

His Honour remarked that the pony had been kept a month, and as there was to be only two or three days' trial, the defendant's friend must be taken to have purchased it at its fair value, or at Tls. 40, if that was the stipulated price. Plaintiff ought not, under these circumstances, to have taken it away, but sued for the price.

Plaintiff said that when he went on Saturday to defendant's friend's house, the latter's wife told him to take the pony away.

Defendant repeated that his friend's illness would account for the time the pony was retained. He was content with the pony, and it was only the question of price that was in abeyance until he got well enough to bargain himself with the plaintiff. When the plaintiff went to the house on Saturday, the people thought it was somebody coming to steal. He was willing now to give him a cheque for Tls. 25 on account of his friend, upon the pony being returned.

Plaintiff showed a singular obtuseness regarding the offer "on account," seeming to think he would not get any more money, and kept asking for his Tls. 40. He ultimately asked His Honour to give him a chit to take to defendant's friend to get the money.

HIS HONOUR told plaintiff that he ought not to have taken the pony away, and that he was now suing the wrong person. His better course would be to send the pony back, and accept defendant's offer of Tls. 25 on account; and the person to whom the pony was sold would have to pay the balance, if any, of the price.

Summons dismissed.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 20th Nov.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

R. (Captain ADAMS) v. EDWARD WARD.

Robbery on Board Ship.

Defendant, a stolid-looking young man, who, on the 7th or 8th instant, was taken on trial from the Sailors' Home as steward on board the *Corea*, was charged with breaking open the prosecutor's cash-box and stealing therefrom seventeen dollars and, a half-sovereign, his property.

MR. STRIPLING stated that the prisoner claimed to be an American, and he had therefore taken him to the U.S. Consulate-General, but they refused to recognise him there. He was serving on board a British ship, but was not on the articles, being only on trial. Of the money stolen, \$3.70 had been recovered, and it was believed a portion of it had been spent by the prisoner in purchasing clothing and boots. If the prisoner would say where he purchased those articles, it was probable that that money also might be recovered, by the Chinaman he bought them of being induced to take them back and return the money.

Defendant, in reply to questions as to his nationality, said he was born in England and that his father was an Englishman, but that he himself had been brought up in America, where he was naturalised. (Prisoner did not say when or where, and it appears that he has a vague notion of having been naturalised through connection with some temperance society.)

HIS WORSHIP said that as prisoner was born in England, and his father was an Englishman, he would deal with the case.

Prisoner then said he wished the case to be dealt with summarily. He admitted that he found the key of the prosecutor's state room, and went in and stole the money. He spent a portion of it in drink in company with others, and bought a coat for \$2.50. He did not buy boots, as Mr. Bowen, of the Sailors' Home, had given him a pair.

Prosecutor, questioned, said the prisoner was only on trial, and he did not intend engaging him, as he knew nothing of steward's duties. Prisoner was a seaman on board his last ship, and had deserted from her.

MR. STRIPLING said with regard to the half-sovereign, prisoner gave it to one of the seamen on board, named Macdonald, who was lying in the fore-castle at the time, and who had since given it up.

The cash-box was produced in Court. It was one of the ordinary description, but worn; and the lock seemed to have been easily broken.

HIS WORSHIP sentenced the prisoner to hard labour for six weeks.

R. (Captain WALLACE) v. P. H. PAINE.

Charge of being Absent without leave.

This defendant, second steward of the steamer *Glenlyon*, was charged with being absent without leave, and also with desertion.

—Complainant also accused the defendant of "incapacity, drunkenness, and laziness;" and said he had given him opportunity to come on shore and seek for some situation for which he was more suited. He broke leave on Saturday.

Defendant denied that he broke leave at all. The captain paid him off, gave him back his discharge from a former ship, and told him he was discharged from the *Glenlyon*.

The Captain denied this, and said he gave defendant leave to come on shore on Saturday, with strict injunctions to be on board again at five o'clock, and he did not return. He called defendant aft, on Friday, and asked him what he was going to do with himself. He replied that he could get a situation in the local constabulary; and he had previously said he could get employment at an hotel. He (complainant) told him if he could do either, he would discharge him from the vessel. Mr. Tapp, however, would not allow him to be discharged from the ship, and he (complainant) told defendant that in that case the best thing he could do was to go back to the vessel. On Saturday, defendant came and asked for leave, and he gave him leave till five o'clock in the afternoon; at the same time handing him \$8, the same amount of petty cash given to others going ashore. Defendant did not return at five o'clock.

Defendant said the \$8 was all the money due him. The captain did not give him leave, nor mention any time for him to be back. He handed him at the same time his old discharge, and told him he was discharged from the *Glenlyon*.

Complainant said that \$8 was not all the money owing the defendant—there was still a small balance due him.

MR. TAPP said that on Monday morning defendant came to him, and said the captain had given him the balance of his wages and ordered him out of the ship. That was defendant's story to him, and he at once ordered defendant to return to the ship.

HIS WORSHIP said he also saw the defendant on Monday morning, and told him to go back to the ship. Why did he not go?

Defendant—I would rather go to prison than go on board that ship again. Everybody will be down upon me.

Complainant—He has been guilty of pilfering the ship's stores, embezzling, and drunkenness; and I told him I could not have him in the cabin any longer.

On being asked what he intended to do with defendant, the captain said he proposed, if he was obliged to keep him on board, to disrate him to an ordinary seaman, and send him forward on deck. In consequence of the defendant's representations about being able to get a situation on shore, he had already shipped another man in his place. As to defendant's pilfering, the chief steward was on leave on Tuesday last, and on his return on board found a quantity of rum in the defendant's cabin, which had been stolen from the cask.

Defendant said he knew nothing about the rum.

HIS WORSHIP doubted whether the complainant could require the defendant to do a seaman's duty, he not being a seaman.

Complainant said he was entered on the articles as a seaman, and a captain had the power to make stokers go aloft.

HIS WORSHIP—I doubt it; if you compelled them to, and they lost their lives, you would be responsible.

Defendant (interposing)—I should be very much obliged if your Worship would send me to prison. I would rather go there than on board again—or give me leave to go and try to get another ship or some situation on shore.

Complainant said defendant had been on and off trying for several days to get an engagement as a constable, which he had said he was sure to get, and on the strength of that assertion, he (complainant) had, as he had before said, shipped another man in his place. The sum due altogether to defendant was £1 13s. 4d.

Defendant produced the old discharge which he said the captain had given him back. It was from the *Tamar Castle*, on board which vessel defendant had served as scullery-man. He said he had accepted so low a position because there was none other vacant at that time. He gave Captain Wallace, when he engaged him as second steward, to understand that he had never been a second steward before. He had been boots on board P. & O. steamers, and

cuddy servant in the *Navarino*. He showed Captain Wallace papers to that effect. (It appeared that defendant was discharged from the *Tamar Castle* with a good character.)

Complainant—That was because he had only to wash dishes.

HIS WORSHIP said it did not seem to him that defendant could be sent forward among the crew. If he was not fit for the post of second steward, make him third, if there was one—if not, and he did not give satisfaction, reduce his pay.

Defendant now said he had just been told that at the Astor House he could hear of a situation, if he might be allowed to go there; and he thought he would now be able to find the guarantee required.—(What this meant was not stated; probably it had reference to the Sailors' Home.)

Complainant said he was willing to give the defendant twenty-four hours' leave to try to get a situation.

This solved the knot of difficulties for the time, and his Worship told defendant he was at liberty until twelve o'clock next day. If he was unsuccessful in obtaining a situation, he must return to the ship at that hour. He must pay the costs of Court.

Defendant—In what capacity am I to go back to the ship?

HIS WORSHIP—As second steward, and do your duty. It can't be very difficult.

21st Nov.

R. v. JAMES RILEY.

Drunkenness.

Defendant was a seaman of the *Birchvale*, having joined her about four days ago. He never did any work on board, had spent all his advance-money in drink, and had drunk so heavily as to be now suffering from *delirium tremens*. The ship had sailed without him, another man having been shipped in his place.

HIS WORSHIP remanded defendant for seven days, but ordered that he should be brought up again, if he recovered sufficiently, before the expiration of that time.

R. (POLICE) v. CHARLES DICKSON.

Drunken and Incapable.

Defendant, an A.B. of the *Supreme*, was charged with being drunk and incapable in the Broadway, at 10 p.m. on the 20th instant. Discharged on payment of costs, \$1.50.

24th Nov.

R. (POLICE) v. JAMES FINIGAN and

WILLIAM KENNEDY.

Drunken Sailors.

Both defendants belong to the steamer *Dioned*. Finigan, a boy in appearance, but who said he was an ordinary seaman, was found drunk and incapable in a jinriksha, at 7 p.m., on the 23rd instant, and Kennedy, in a similar condition, in the Dockwell road, at 3.15 a.m., on the 24th. The last-named defendant seemed hardly sober when brought into Court.—Both said they had leave to come ashore on Friday evening, although the steamer was to sail about noon on Saturday.

There being but comparatively little time for defendants to catch the ship, HIS WORSHIP ordered them to return on board at once, directing a constable to accompany them, to see that they went and also that no harm befel Kennedy in his half-drunken condition.

26th Nov.

R. (GEORGE WILES) v. EDWARD SUNSTREAM.

Feloniously Cutting and Wounding.

Both men are able seamen of the British ship *Ethiopian*, and prisoner stood charged with feloniously cutting and wounding the prosecutor, with intent, &c., on board the ship, about 6.30 p.m., Sunday night.

Prosecutor appeared in Court, with his throat bandaged.

MR. STRIPLING briefly stated the charge against the prisoner, and described the wound which was inflicted on prosecutor's throat, as being about two inches in length, and rather deep in one place; and being just about the carotid artery was of a serious character. Dr. Henderson, who had attended the prosecutor, said he had better not talk to-day, in order to prevent the wound bleeding again.

Prisoner, on being formally charged, said, "I remember nothing at all about it: I was tight."

His WORSHIP, in consequence of the intimation given as to the advisability of prosecutor's not being allowed to talk, said he proposed now to take only sufficient evidence to justify a remand.

Mr. STAPLING then called

WILLIAM MACREADY, who deposed—I am an able seaman on board the *Ethiopian*. Prisoner is an able seaman on board the same ship. Wiles belongs to the vessel. Prisoner and I and three others were ashore together on Sunday. We went on board at 10 minutes past six. We took some drink on board, and after we had had our tea, we all (eleven of us) took a drink out of the bottle. We were all joking round, about hair oil. Wiles told prisoner to go to his bunk and take the oil when he wanted it. They got on from word to word, not angrily. Prisoner shoved Wiles, and Wiles shoved back. They both then closed and gripped, and the next I heard was Wiles calling out that his throat was cut. It occurred in the fore-castle, at about 25 minutes past six. I was standing in the fore-castle a few feet off. I saw no knife. When Wiles called out, he was lying across a box, and prisoner was on the top of him. I stood still, and Holloway ran and took hold of Wiles, and took him to the cabin. He threw prisoner on one side first. Before Wiles came back, prisoner remained in the fore-castle, and sat on his own box. He said nothing that I heard.

Prisoner asked no questions, but said that when he went ashore he took off his knife and sheath and left them in his bunk, and that was all he knew about it.

Captain FAULKNER, of the *Ethiopian*, in answer to a question, said the ship would probably remain in port another month.

His WORSHIP remanded the prisoner for a week.

R. (POLICE) v. GEORGE PURCELL.
Drunkenness.

Defendant, an able seaman of the *Leander*, who was in a miserable condition from the effects of drink and dirt, was charged by the Police with being drunk and incapable in Broadway, at 11.15 p.m., on the 25th inst.—He was before the Court on a similar charge only on Friday last, and now pleaded hard to be again let off, saying the ship was going to haul off from the Wharf to-day, and he would have no further chance of coming ashore.

His WORSHIP told defendant that he had warned him on Friday, but he had taken no heed, and was drunk again in a day or so afterwards. His Worship could not overlook it, and should send defendant to prison for seven days' hard labour.

ALBERT KING, able seaman, of the *City of Limerick*, was charged by the Police with being drunk and incapable at 8.50 p.m., on Sunday, in the Broadway.—Defendant, a wretched-looking object, who appeared in Court with his face cut and bruised, which he said had been caused by his falling down, pleaded that he must have been dosed, as he had but one drink and did not recollect anything more. He was now so sick that he wished he was dead.

His WORSHIP ordered defendant to pay costs, \$1.50, and to go back to his ship; telling him that if he got drunk again, he would be sent to prison, like the former defendant.

Defendant asked for three or four dollars, which he said he remembered having in his pocket, and which he did not spend.

It was stated that on his being searched at the Police Station, no dollars were found upon him. It seemed, therefore, that he must either have spent the money, or lost it.

R. (POLICE) v. NELSON CREASY.
Drunkenness and Assault.

Defendant, a seaman of the steamer *City of Limerick*, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and assaulting a native constable (95), while in the execution of his duty, in North Sochow road, at 8.45 p.m., on the 25th instant.

Complainant, through Heding, deposed—On Sunday night, I saw the defendant beating a Chinese woman with his fists in the face. I went to him, and told him not to do so. He then struck me three or four times in the face and on my shoulder, but not to hurt me much. My lips were swollen and bled a little. After he struck me, I induced

him to get into a jinriksha, and then took him to the Station. The woman went on board her boat in the creek. She did not go to the station to complain that the defendant had assaulted her. I did not tell her to come to the Court this morning.

Defendant, in answer to questions, said he remembered nothing at all about it. He was drunk, and had nothing more to say.

His WORSHIP said he did not suppose the assaults committed by the defendant were very violent, but he had no right to lay hands on or molest any one. He should fine him \$5, and costs.

R. (POLICE) v. ABDUL RAMON, SIA BOO, and
HOS MUN.

The three defendants are employed on board the P. & O. steamer *Qualior*, the first named being a servant, the second a fireman, and the third a storekeeper. They were charged with fighting in the Seward Road, at 9.15 p.m., on the 25th inst.

P. C. WRIGHT stated that just before the time named, he saw the defendants and about twenty others of their countrymen fighting and struggling together. The defendants seemed to be the ringleaders, and he apprehended them and took them to the station. There they promised better behaviour, and were allowed to go; but they had not got more than 300 yards from the Station, when they began fighting again, fell down, and struggled together on the ground. He then took them into custody again.

His WORSHIP fined defendants \$2 each and costs.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE-
GENERAL

Shanghai, 28th Nov.

Before the Hon. G. WILEY WELLS, Consul-
General, and

M. W. MURPHY, } Associates.
and
J. O. FULLER, }
F. A. GROOM v. A. JENKINS.

Mr. MYBURGH appeared for the plaintiff.
Mr. WAINWRIGHT conducted the defence.

This was an action to recover Tls. 850, being three months' rent of certain premises on the French Bund, known as the "Paou-fong Wharf and Godown." Evidence and the Counsel's arguments were heard on the 21st inst. The business relations of the parties, and the circumstances culminating in litigation between them, were fully reported in the *Daily News* when the plaintiff was unsuccessful in an action a few weeks ago to recover certain premia on leases, he bargained to give the defendant, for the same premises for which he now claimed rent. The same documentary evidence as was produced in that action was used in this, together with three additional letters that had passed between the parties; and plaintiff and defendant were each examined at some length. To-day the Court delivered

Judgment.

The COURT said—The Court has met this morning for the purpose of rendering decision in the case of F. A. Groom v. A. Jenkins, number 655. The facts in the case, as ascertained by the evidence submitted, are as follows:—Remi de Montigny, who owned certain premises situated in Shanghai, leased the same to C. P. Blethen for the term of ten years, as shown by a duly executed lease, dated Shanghai, January 11th, 1877. Sometime in December, 1876, Groom, (the plaintiff) entered into negotiations with C. P. Blethen for the purchase of the lease to said property. Blethen sold and agreed to transfer to plaintiff his said lease. Millot, the agent of Remi de Montigny, agreed to allow plaintiff (as sub-tenant of Blethen) to occupy said premises. Before any papers were executed, the plaintiff (Groom) entered into negotiations with Messrs. Walker, Derrick and defendant, with a view of selling to them his interest in the lease which Blethen sold and agreed to transfer to plaintiff. About Feb. 5th, 1877, the negotiations between plaintiff, Walker, Derrick and defendant, resulted in the latter agreeing to take from plaintiff the aforesaid lease and to pay him rent by the quarter, in advance, and a certain sum, as premia, also to be paid by the quarter. A short time after, the defendant

purchased from Walker and Derrick their interest in said lease. Plaintiff was notified and agreed to transfer the said lease to defendant and accept him as his tenant, etc. Defendant was at that time in possession, and continued in possession of the said premises. He paid the first and second quarterly payments of premia and rent in advance. In June, 1877, defendant demanded of plaintiff the lease agreed upon. Plaintiff failed to execute and deliver the same, whereupon defendant refused to make further payment of premia, but paid the rent for the third quarter of 1877. The fourth quarter expired on the 30th day of Sept., 1877. Defendant continued in possession until the 27th of Aug., 1877, when he wrote plaintiff as follows:—

"Shanghai, 27th August, 1877.

"F. A. GROOM, Esq.,

"DEAR SIR,—Referring to mine of the 26th June last, I now beg to inform you that unless I am put in possession of the leases of the premises on the French Bund, as per your letter of 23rd April, on or before 15th prox., I shall hold our agreement regarding same at an end, and shall hold you responsible for all losses and expenses accruing from your breach of contract.

"Yours faithfully,

"M. ANDREW JENKINS."

Defendant continued to enjoy and occupy the premises until the 1st day of October, when he sent the keys of the building to plaintiff accompanied with the following note:—

"Shanghai, 1st Oct., 1877.

"FRANCIS A. GROOM, Esq.,
"Shanghai.

"DEAR SIR,—I beg to hand you herewith the keys of the premises on the French Bund, occupied by me up to the 30th ulto.

"Yours faithfully,

"(Sd.) M. ANDREW JENKINS."

Plaintiff was absent from home on the 30th September, and did not receive the keys and note until the 2nd of October. Had they been sent on the 30th September, the day when the quarter expired, "they would have been taken in."

The question as to defendant's liability to pay premia, has been heretofore considered and decided by this Court.

The question now presented to the Court, is whether the defendant is liable for rent beyond the third quarter, and if so for what sums.

The COURT decides, the Associates concurring:—

1st.—That the letter dated August 27th, and claimed on behalf of defendant to be a notice to plaintiff of an intention on his part to determine the tenancy, was not a notice to determine the tenancy.

2nd.—That until defendant's note, dated October 1st, no notice was given to plaintiff that defendant intended to terminate or determine the tenancy.

3rd.—That this notice, dated October 1st, in point of time is not such a notice as the law requires.

4th.—That defendant was a quarterly tenant.

5th.—That as such quarterly tenant he is required by law to give forty-five full days notice of his intention to determine such tenancy.

6th.—That the notice dated October 1st is a legal notice.

7th.—That said notice terminated defendant's tenancy November 15th, 1877.

8th.—That defendant is indebted to plaintiff for the use and occupation of said premises from the 1st day of October to 15th day of November, 1877, at a quarterly rent of Tls. 850, the equivalent being \$1,159.62.

The Court therefore awards plaintiff judgment for \$579.80, with Court costs in this behalf expended.

Mr. Clerk enter judgment.

Mr. MYBURGH said plaintiff had an attachment on defendant's pontoon, which had been sold while the present suit was pending to satisfy a previous judgment of the Court. He presumed that the amount of the present judgment would be taken out of the remaining proceeds.

The COURT replied that the pontoon had been submitted to public auction, but the Court had not received the proceeds of the sale. By the interference of the plaintiff in the present action at the time of the sale, it

was asserted that the pontoon was depreciated in value, and he (Mr. Groom) being a British subject, the Court could not deal with him as it would have done if he had been a citizen of the United States. Plaintiff could have been dealt with for contempt of Court.

In reply to Mr. Myburgh, the Court said the pontoon only realised Tls. 1,005, and under the circumstances the Court would order it to be resold.

Plaintiff wished to explain that in what he had done no contempt of Court was intended. He added that as soon as the pontoon was knocked down the purchaser tried to resell it, and had been trying to do so ever since, but had been unable to find a purchaser.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT and Mr. Seabrooke both asserted that the pontoon could be resold at a profit directly.

The Court was quite willing to accept plaintiff's apology for what he had done, and would take it that no contempt of Court was intended.

Plaintiff repeated that no contempt of Court was intended on his part, and alleged that his interference at the sale was the result of Mr. Seabrooke's impertinence. Immediately Mr. Seabrooke produced his authority, he (plaintiff) had nothing more to say.

Mr. SEABROOKE retorted that it was enough to make a man impertinent when he was threatened to be thrown into the river.

The COURT said if there was no other business to be brought forward the Marshal would adjourn the Court.

The parties had nothing further to say, and the Court adjourned.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, 23rd Nov.

Before the Chinese Magistrate CHEN, and C. T. GARDNER, Esq., British Assessor.
Gamblers Punished.

Twenty-five men and four women, were brought up by the Police, charged with gambling.

Mr. WILSON stated that through the instrumentality of a native police-sergeant, the prisoners were captured on Wednesday night last, in two houses in an alley in the Wuhu road. The head-man and shroff, with some others, escaped when the seizure was made, but the headman was taken into custody on Thursday. There were three subordinate headmen also in custody, and those four were reputed to be wealthy men and able to pay almost any fine that might be inflicted. The chief headman also keeps an opium shop. The women were the wives of those four men, and to them was entrusted the care of the gambling money, &c. In the pocket of one of them was found a box of dice and some dollars, on another a silver watch and chain, and on all of them some silver ornaments, most of which no doubt had been pledged by persons frequenting the gambling-rooms, the remainder being the women's own property. In the houses were seized a quantity of dollars and 28,000 cash, together with all the books of both concerns, showing the amount of money made daily, and the sums divided among the headmen. A number of boxes containing other property were also seized on the two premises. The houses were not situated next door to each other, but on opposite sides of the alley and some distance apart.

The ASSESSOR asked if the prisoners' gambling implements were also seized?

Mr. PENFOLD explained that the gambling in these houses was carried on by means of cash. The headmen were well-known gamblers, and had formerly had places for the purpose at Passenjaou and elsewhere. The introduction of women as participants in such houses, was, however, a novelty. The amount of money gained by the proprietors of gambling houses per day was very large, probably not less than 20,000 or 30,000 cash, great numbers of people frequenting them at all hours of the day and night. The chief difficulty the police had to contend with in effecting these captures, was the carelessness with which the approaches to the houses were watched by outside scouts.

The MAGISTRATE said he thought the best way to punish the prisoners would be by fining them, and he accordingly fined the

first and second headmen \$200 each; and the third and fourth, \$100 each; twenty of the other prisoners \$1 each, in default, seven days' imprisonment in the Municipal prison; while a watchman, who was considered too poor to pay a fine, was sentenced to seven days' cage. The women, it was thought, had suffered enough by the confiscation of their property, and they were discharged.

The ASSESSOR said that the fines of the headmen, amounting to \$600, would be given to the Famine Relief Fund; while as many of the smaller fines that were paid, together with the money seized, and the proceeds of the sale of the property found in the two houses, would be presented to the Shantung road hospital.

The native Sergeant, through whose acuteness the seizures were made, was suitably rewarded.

Extracts.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(Supplied to the "Daily Press.")

London, 16th November.

War is regarded as imminent between Turkey and Servia.

The Russians captured Azizie on the 14th instant, but the Turks succeeded afterwards in expelling them.

18th November.

The French Ministry have now tendered their resignation, which was accepted; the moderate Constitutionalists have been summoned by Marshal MacMahon to form a new Ministry.

According to a Russian official despatch, on the night of the 15th instant the Turks three times unsuccessfully attacked the positions of General Skobeleff.

Ghazi Ahmed Mukhtar Pacha has received reinforcements.

A Russian attack on Kars has been repulsed. According to a Russian official despatch, after severe fighting lasting from 8 o'clock p.m. on the 17th instant to 8 o'clock a.m. on the 18th instant, Kars was carried by assault.

19th November.

The Russians captured 7,000 prisoners at Kars. General Loris Melikoff entered the place yesterday morning.

An attack made by the Russians upon the Turkish positions at Orchanie has been defeated with very heavy loss.

(Straits Times Extra.)

Kurrachee, 17th October.

The 2nd Belooch Regiment has received orders to proceed at once to the Bolan Pass. They march next Saturday. It is believed this force will cooperate with one from Jacobabad and the Punjab.

Glasgow, 22nd October.

The latest particulars from High Blantyre show that 235 men descended into the mines this morning. None of these, except one who was working near the shaft at the time of the explosion, had been rescued up to a late hour this evening. Very little hope of rescuing the men is entertained, as the explosion occurred at 9 o'clock in the morning and the exploring party had to relinquish their efforts in one pit at 4 in the afternoon, because of the poisonous gases at the bottom of the shaft in the other pit. The colliery comprises two pits, with communication between them. A faint knocking has been heard, but so far it has been impossible to reach the bottom of the pit.

Explorers have resumed operations at the first pit. They report forty corpses lying at the foot of the shaft, at the bottom of which the knocking heard is rapidly collapsing. The explorers consequently are attempting to reopen communication from another mine. They have penetrated about half a mile, but have still a hundred and fifty fathoms to clear; so they cannot possibly reach the men who are supposed to be imprisoned before morning. It is feared that by that time few, if any, will remain alive.

London, 25th October.

Suleiman Pasha, under date of the 26th instant, reports a skirmish with the enemy at Manourkoi. The loss sustained by the Russians in the battle at Dubnik on the 24th

instant was 2,500 men.—The Grand Duke Nicholas, on the 25th instant, inspected the positions taken up by General Gourko at Dubnik.—It is reported that the Russian advanced guard has arrived near Silistria.

29th Oct.

St. Petersburg papers state that negotiations for the capitulation of Kars have commenced, and that on the 25th instant an emissary from the garrison of Kars came into the Russian camp for the purpose of opening up negotiations.

A Turkish official despatch confirms the junction of the forces of Ismail Pasha and Ghazi Ahmed Mukhtar, and further states that they hold strong positions at Koprikoï, where they await the advance of the Russians.

Lord Derby, replying to a memorial from the merchants of England engaged in trade with China, said that he declined to publish that portion of Sir Thomas Wade's report relating to the trade, and which has been omitted from the Blue Book, because the Indian Government has the matter under consideration.

30th Oct.

The Russians have captured Teliche, on the road to Orchanie. The capture included seven companies of Turkish infantry, several officers and three guns.—The Russians have appeared at Statitz, behind Orchanie.—Ghazi Ahmed Mukhtar telegraphs, under date of 27th instant, that the Russians are encamped at Azab, only three hours' distance from his entrenched position.

31st October.

Alice Rhodes has received a free pardon. The Stauntons have been sentenced to penal servitude for life.—A memorial, signed by a number of influential persons, has been presented to Lord Derby, urging him to ratify the Chefoo convention.

Suleiman Pasha has returned to Rasgrad.—The garrison of Kars having rejected the terms of capitulation, the Russians are bombarding.

1st November.

Advices from the seat of war in Armenia state that, whilst the Turks were evacuating Hassankale, their rearward was surrounded under cover of darkness, and two battalions were taken prisoners. The Russian loss in the engagement was trifling.—Ghazi Ahmed Mukhtar is strongly entrenched at Deveboyun, to the east of Erzerum.

The Montenegrins occupy the heights round Podgoretza, which place they menace.—A Roumanian reconnoitring party has expelled the Turks from the redoubt near Rahowa, to the north-west of Plevna.

Clippings.

On the arrival of the steamer *Dragon* at Vladivostok, about a fortnight ago, the master reported that during the voyage from Nagasaki to that port, the chief engineer was missing; and it was supposed that he had jumped overboard. An inquiry was held on the *Dragon* arriving at Hakodate, there being no English Consul at Vladivostok, and from the statements of the master and the owner it was concluded that the man jumped overboard while in a condition of temporary insanity.—*Japan Gazette.*

The Java papers report that during the night of the 16th-17th September, the Australian three-masted schooner *Julia Rietz*, bound for Adelaide with a cargo of tea from China, struck on a reef near Wangi Wangi and was soon in a hopeless condition. The captain and two sailors reached the island of Buton in a boat, after forty hours' rowing, where Captain Pott, of the steamer *Karang*, was requested to go to bring away the crew of the lost vessel, and to ascertain her condition. Of the crew of the *Julia Rietz*, who were nine in number, the six then still on the wreck were taken on board the *Karang* on the 21st September, and conveyed to Macassar with the three who had been landed in Buton. On the 2nd ult. the wreck and the cargo (which was nearly all spoilt) was sold at Macassar by auction, and brought 745 guilders.—*Daily Press.*

TIENTSIN.

I sing the beauties of Tientsin,
But know not where I shall begin;
The "Bund," that promenade so grand
With swarms of coolies, dirty band!
Sitting on rice fermenting fast,
Preventing ladies walking past,
Then vauding pork, fried fish and sweets
(Chinese like eating in the streets);
And barbers standing here and there
To shave and dress "Celestials" hair.
Then heaps on heaps of donkey boys
With all their horrid dreadful noise;
Barbers, chow-chow, all together,
Smelling so fragrant with every breath.
What though a hair should go astray
And settle on a awestment tray?
"We" oft times in our bill of fare
Find quite by chance a long black hair,
Suggesting that our cook, the sinner,
Has combed his hair too near the dinner.
Victoria Road has its own sweet
That blow about with every breeze;
But mafosa with their horses come
And up and down the place they run,
And exercise their ponies here—
Wild riding sailors too we fear,
So to the plains we often must go,
And very plain it is to know;
No trees, no grass, but lots of frogs,
And graves, and ponds, and many dogs.
On "Jaku Road" equestrians meet,
This road for dust no road can beat;
Near by the coolies refuse throw,
Thus making it a "Rotten Row."
No place have we where we can roam,
And so are forced to stay at home;
For dust without and dust within,
These are the beauties of Tientsin.

CRICKET.

Mr. Oscanyan, in his book "The Sultan and his People," tells the following anecdote of a Turkish physician, whose prescriptions and method of treatment will interest English practitioners. A person exceedingly ill of typhus fever called in one of these medical gentlemen, who, although he considered the case quite hopeless, prescribed for his patient, and took his leave. The next day, in passing by, he inquired of a servant at the door if his master was not dead. "Dead! No; he is much better." Whereupon the doctor proceeded upstairs to obtain the explanation of the miracle. "Why," said the convalescent, "I was consumed with thirst, and I drank a painful of the juice of pickled cabbage." "Wonderful!" quoth the doctor; and out came his tablets, on which the physician made this inscription, "Cured of typhus fever, Mehemed Agha, an upholsterer, by drinking a painful of pickled cabbage juice." Soon after the doctor was called to another patient, a yaghlidgee, or dealer in embroidered handkerchiefs, suffering from the same malady. He forthwith prescribed a "painful of pickled cabbage juice." On calling the next day to congratulate his patient on his recovery, he was astonished on being told that the man was dead. The Oriental Aesculapius, in his bewilderment at these phenomena, came to the safe conclusion, and duly noted it in his memoranda, that, "although in cases of typhus fever pickled cabbage juice is an efficient remedy, it is not, however, to be used unless the patient be by profession an upholsterer."

After reading the interesting letter on a "Strange Dream Phenomenon" which appeared in Nature (vol. XVI. p. 319), it occurred to me that it might be worth while to put on record the following experience which connects in a very striking manner the phenomena of dreaming and subjective vision. Some time ago, when rather tired by overwork, I dreamt during the night that some one had entered my bedroom, and was approaching the pillow under my head with the intention of abstracting some valuable papers which I fancied were concealed beneath it. I noticed in every particular the dress, stature, and features of the intending robber, but just as he put forward his hand towards the bed I began to awake, slowly at first, but with great celerity as soon as I perceived the figure of my dream walking slowly down the side of the bed; wide awake now, I watched it reach the corner bedpost, turn round and with measured noiseless step pass along the foot, till on coming between the window and myself it disappeared, as all the "ghosts" with which I was then afflicted were wont to do, when shone through by the light. I did not sleep any more for the rest of the night, and hence am certain that this was not "a dream within a dream," but a clear case of a subjective vision prolonged from the sleeping into the waking state, and thus affording evidence to prove the essential

identity which underlies the phenomena of "dreaming dreams" and seeing "ghosts."
—W. J. S. in Nature.

Some additional particulars have been received of the flight of the rival Emir of Kashgaria. Khakim-Khan-Tiour has arrived at Tashkend, and has had an audience with the Governor-General. He states that he was driven from Aksu by Bek-Kooli-Beg, who attacked him with an overwhelming body of troops. By this success the son of Yakoob Beg has become undisputed master of his father's territories, with the exception of the portion in the possession of Tao-Tsoun-Tsan, the general commanding the invading Chinese forces. The later, Khakim states, are advancing slowly from Toorfan, whither Bek-Kooli-Beg has gone to meet them. Should he be successful he will endeavour to follow his father's example in establishing a powerful Mussulman State, and, if possible, will push out in the direction of India so as, by becoming a contiguous Khanate to our possession, to assure himself of our assistance. On the other hand, if the Snider rifles of the Chinese are too much for him and the latter conquer Kashgaria, Khakim-Khan-Tiour will return to Aksu, and most likely be reinstated in his authority there. Should this take place, Russian influence would become paramount in the Tean Shan region, and none of the present difficulties would be experienced in sending Russian caravans through the passes to Peking. Lieutenant-Colonel Koorkovsky, who was despatched by the Governor of the Semiretchiusski district to carry out his instructions respecting the internment of Kashgarian refugees, has arrived at Issek Kool with a sotnia of Cossacks, and has disarmed the 1,000 horsemen who accompanied Khakim Khan in his flight.—Daily Press.

Apropos of our recent leader, we are glad to see in the *Madras Mail* an emphatic contradiction of the report, circulated by that journal among others, anent the prevent Viceroy of India, that the mortality in Mysore had increased after, and in consequence of, the Viceroy's visit and the changes of policy introduced by him. Our contemporary says the statistics of deaths disprove the rumour:—"The mortality from famine which had been rapidly increasing till that visit, reached its culminating point in the first ten days of September, and then fell suddenly to scarcely more than half its previous figures. There is no diminution in relief; either labor or food is provided for every applicant, and no one is turned away. About 10,000 people have now been placed on the relief works in and round Bangalore, and 7,000 of these are on the State Railway. The improvement in the health and condition and spirits of these people has, we are assured, been noticed by every observer. The mortality in Bangalore is still very high, but it has no connection with the relief works. The people who die of disease and starvation in the rainy nights, are those who have crowded into the city, in the hope of bettering themselves, and who succumb before they can be relieved by the relief officers."

The *Friend of India* too, has much pleasure in quoting this testimony, for had the reports formerly current been true, they would have gone far to show that Lord Lytton's visit was a calamity instead of the immense benefit which we may now be assured it has proved to Southern India.

More than a year has elapsed since a Convention between the English and Chinese Governments was negotiated at Chefoo. The new Treaty, besides containing a settlement of the Margary case, placed the question of official etiquette and the administration of justice upon an improved footing, and provided for the opening of several new ports, and for other regulations of an important character connected with trade. Naturally a great desire was felt in many quarters to see the official correspondence on subjects of so much moment to the interests of both countries. From time to time during the last Session, the Foreign Office was questioned as to the publication of these papers, but the responsibility for the delay was attached to Sir Thomas Wade, who, it was stated, had undertaken to prepare an elaborate Report on all the subjects embodied in the Treaty. At last the Blue

Book was laid before Parliament, but too late to admit of Mr. Mark Stewart bringing forward the motion which at an early period of the Session he had placed on the notice paper. Nearly two months have elapsed since Parliament was prorogued, but still it is not known whether Lord Derby intends to ratify the Convention. Moreover, for all practical purposes the Correspondence might as well have remained unpublished, the most important part of Sir Thomas Wade's Report of July 14th last having been suppressed. This is rather a strong statement to make, but an examination of the Report itself will show that the passages in which he made known his views on Section III of the Treaty, the section which deals with all the new arrangements for the regulation of trade, have been omitted without a word of explanation. The last letter published in the Blue Book is a confirmation of this statement. The Under-Secretary for India informs the Foreign Office that a copy of Sir T. Wade's Report has been sent to the Indian Government, "with a request for the early expression of their views, which Lord Salisbury will await before communicating any opinion on the commercial questions which are raised in the Report." No "commercial questions"—at least none of those set forth in the Trade Section of the Convention—are referred to at all in the published version of the Report, and it therefore follows that information which has been communicated to the Government of India has been deliberately withheld from the British public. Some explanation as to the motives of the Government in dealing with Sir Thomas Wade's Report in this singular fashion is certainly due to those who are interested in our political and commercial relations with China.—Daily News.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Saikio Maru*, for Nagasaki—Dr. McCartee. For Hiogo—Messrs. A. Milne and F. Low. For Yokohama—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Palmer and child, Mr. and Mrs. Katogi, Mrs. McCartee and Chinese child.

Per str. *Paulah*, for Tientsin—Mrs. Campbell and four children. For Chefoo—Mr. Griés.

Per str. *Europe*, for Hongkong—Messrs. H. J. James and E. C. Ray. For Amoy—Mr. Hobson. For Foochow—Rev. L. Piazzoli.

Per str. *Yangtze*, for Hongkong—Mrs. Schuster and family, Messrs. T. G. Smith and E. George.

Per str. *Fungshun*, for Tientsin—Mr. Detring.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Nagoya Maru*, from Japan—Mr. and Mrs. Lambeth, Miss G. Winter, Miss A. Stanley, Messrs. Beussonnet, Rickman, Laurence, Leeds, Curtis, Cavaliere, Wada, Wooyeda, Tasaese.

Per str. *China*, from Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. White.

Per str. *Tahyew*, from Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. Daee and child.

Per str. *Taku*, from Tientsin—Mr. Gissert.

Per str. *Thibet*, from Southampton—Mr. G. Holmes. From Hongkong—Miss Nathan, Messrs. Ewing and servant, R. Hughes and servant, A. Lind, J. Harris, and Carvalho.

Per str. *Paulah*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Messrs. Effland and Playfair.

Per str. *Shanghai*, from Hankow—Mr. Martin. From Nanking—Mr. Smith and friend. From Chinkiang—Mr. David.

Per str. *Sin Nanzing*, from Tientsin—Wen-kwei, Superintendent of the Hangchow Silk Manufactory, and suite. From Chefoo—Mr. Donaldson.

Per str. *Haeting*, from Tientsin—Mr. Hartmann.

Per str. *Haeen*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Mr. Marshall and one Japanese gentleman.

LEAVING.

Per str. *Guailior*, for Venice—Mr. O. Johnson. For Madras—Mr. Rebeiro. For Brindisi—Mr. and Mrs. E. Viele, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Paige, Messrs. A. J. Brandon, C. A. Barattini, and C. Viele. For Suez—Mr. F. Breuschdt. For Hongkong—Lady Agnes Flower and maid, Mr. H. Flower, Messrs. W. Brown, W. Parry, and J. K. Davis.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 28TH NOVEMBER, 1877.

ARRIVALS.—The P. & O. steamer *Thibet*, with the London mails of 12th October, and the steamship *Sarpedon* from Liverpool.

PIECE GOODS.—Our market continues lifeless. Sales are becoming fewer and smaller, and prices are going lower and lower. One hears very little now of telegraphic or other limits. Doubtless they are still binding upon the receivers, but through force of untoward circumstances they are long since rendered inoperative. Nor is their enforcement likely to be seriously threatened by any healthy consumptive demand on this side China New-year. The northern season may be said to be ended, since but little cargo, other than rice, can now be sent forward; and there is not much to be expected from HANKOW, where the banking or financial system is not by any means in a satisfactory or flourishing condition, and so, unless speculation supervene, everything points to a very quiet market here for Piece Goods during the winter.

Grey Shirtings.—The business in 8½-lbs. since 21st instant comprises:—*Hand and Branch* at Tls. 1.72½, *Dewhurst's Eagle* at Tls. 1.80, their *Green Lion* at Tls. 1.72½, and *Lion-on-Bale* at Tls. 1.48 per piece; *Horse and Jockey* at Tls. 1.59½, and some of the lower to lowest brands from Tls. 1.24 a 1.15½ per piece, the largest transaction in any one cloth being 4,150 pieces of *Silver Dragon*, part of which is going, or has gone to JAPAN, and part to CHEFOO. Aggregate sales—as reported—17,000 pieces. In the other weights the most important item is 2,500 pieces of Dewhurst's heavy goods—*Tunsin-Eagle*—at Tls. 2.38 per piece, on 26th instant.

White Shirtings.—The *Tai-Wo Stag*—true 64-reed—figures in the market book at Tls. 1.83 per piece, and a small business has been done in common chops at Tls. 1.38 a 1.50 per piece.

T-Cloths.—In this department there has been scarcely any movement. A small lot of 6-lbs. has changed hands at the old prices, but as regards 7-lbs. and common Mexicans, also 8-lbs. of the lower stamps, the little done in them shews worse values. For the inferior descriptions of 7-lbs. Mexicans buyers are offering considerably inside one Tael per piece, and are seemingly indifferent whether they get the goods or whether they are refused. The higher makes are neglected.

Drills.—*American.*—The last sale was 3,030 pieces of P.M.C.D. at Tls. 2.75 per piece. Of *English*, some 5,000 a 6,000 pieces 14-lbs. ordinary *Dragon* have been settled for the northern marts at Tls. 1.78 a 1.80 per piece. In *Dutch*, no business has transpired.

Jeans.—Small sales of *American* P.M.C.J. are reported at Tls. 2.30, and one insignificant parcel of *English* at Tls. 1.26 per piece.

Sheetings.—*English* makes are unsaleable, but there were a few *American* goods, principally B.M.A., sold early in the week under review, at Tls. 2.70 per piece. The *Massachusetts* chop is firmly held for Tls. 2.85, but the sellers do not make rapid progress at that figure.

Fancy Cottons and Woollens.—Neither market claims extended notice. Nearly everything done in them has been done by auction, and particulars will be found below. *Woollens*, i.e., *Camlets*, *Long Ells*, *Lastings* and *Spanish Stripes* are again lower, but the decline was not altogether unexpected in view of the disarrangement of monetary affairs up river. In *Turkey Reds* and *Handkerchiefs*, however, the turn is in favor of sellers, and *Velvets* have almost held their own.

O. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, Retail prices per piece...Tls.	13.1.0	11.2.7½	12.5.0	10.1.0	12.0.5	...	...	10.6.0	10.7.5	...
Long Ells, " " " " " "	6.4.2	7.0.0	5.9.0	7.0.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.1.0	7.0.0	...
Spanish Stripes, " " " " " "	0.5.5	0.4.8	0.5.1	0.5.3	0.5.1	0.5.8	0.5.7	0.5.4	0.5.1	0.5.8

YUEN-FONG, Auction 22nd instant.	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White	Purple.	Black.	Brown	Mauve.	Lt. Gt.	Total Sales.
Camlets S.S.G. p. pce. £	12.82½/77½	10.70/72½	11.87½/12.00	10.37½	12.17½	...	...	...	10.50	...	11.52½/55	12.00	Pos. 400
Sales, pcs...	160	30	120	20	20	...	...	...	20	...	20	10	
Sp. Stripes T.T.B. p. yd. £	0.57½/0.57	0.51½	0.51/51½	0.54	0.53	0.60	0.55	0.56	0.52	...	...	...	378
Sales, pcs...	162	36	126	9	9	9	9	9	9	...	...	...	

FUH-SING, 26th instant.	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White	Purple.	Black.	Brown	Mauve.	Lt. Gt.	Total Sales.
Camlets Lion p. pce. £	...	...	...	...	11.25/27½	...	...	...	...	...	10.90	...	100
Sales, pcs...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	

KIN-MING, 27th inst.	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White	Purple.	Black.	Brown	Mauve.	Lt. Gt.	Total Sales.
Camlets C.P.H. p. pce. £	13.12½/10	11.27½	12.45/50	10.12½/07½	12.00/05	...	...	10.57½/60	10.77½	...	11.40/47½	12.15/07½	450
Sales, pcs...	100	60	80	30	40	...	...	30	10	...	50	50	
Long Ells C.P.H. p. pce. £	6.45/6.42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	500
Lasting Lion " " " "	...	...	10.20	...	...	...	...	...	10.10	...	...	...	80
Sales, pcs...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	
" Elephant " " " "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.15	...	...	...	60
Sp. Stripes C.P.H. p. yd. £	0.55½/54½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	192

AUCTION SALES OF COTTON GOODS—

"Yuen Fong."—22nd instant—

GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs. *Two Man* (with all faults), 2,500 pieces, at Tls. 1.16 per piece.

"Fuh Sing."—26th instant—

GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs. *Red Elephant*, 750 pieces, at Tls. 1.44 a 1.44½ per piece. WHITE SHIRTINGS—*Flag Chop*, 900 pieces, at Tls. 1.21 a 1.21½ for 56-reed, Tls. 1.29½ a 1.30 for 64-reed. HANDKERCHIEFS—28-inch, 2,000 dozens, at Tl. 0.41½ a 0.41½ per dozen.

"Van Loong."—

T-CLOTHS—*Double Cash* chop, 1,000 pieces, at Tls. 1.33½ for 8-lbs., Tls. 1.10 a 1.09½ for 7-lbs., and 8-lbs. *Stag*, 250 pieces, at Tls. 1.37½ per piece. VELVETS—22-inch *Black Lie Woman*, 60 pieces, at Tls. 0.14.8 per yard.

"Kin Ming."—27th instant—

GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs., 1,150 pieces, at Tls. 1.34½ for *Green Lion*, Tls. 1.44½ for *Blue Lion*, Tls. 1.50 for *Red Lion*, Tls. 1.70 for *Red Ram*.

MISCELLANEOUS—

TURKEY RED CAMBRICS—*Fisherman*, 240 pieces, at Tls. 1.48 for 2½-lbs., Tls. 1.53 for 2½-lbs., and (Fents), 160 pieces, at Tls. 1.32 a 1.41½ for Sundry Chops. VELVETS—22-inch *Black Lie Woman* (Mildewed), 150 pieces, at Tl. 0.14.6½ per yard. CASHMERES—26-yard, 900 pieces, at Tls. 1.40 a 1.41½ per piece. DRILLS—14-lbs., 900 pieces, at Tls. 1.81½ a 1.81½ for *House*, and Tls. 1.78½ per piece for *Dragon*.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.			DUTY.*	QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.			DUTY.*	
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—			T's. m. c.	LASTINGS, 30 yds.....			T's. m. c.	
6-lbs. 39 in. 38½ yds.....	pc.	0.9.8 to 1.0.2		CRAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds. dm. "	pc.	8.0.0 to 11.0.0		
7lbs.	"	1.0.2, 1.2.4		CRAPE LUSTRES	"	3.0.0, 3.5.0		
Dewhurst's Eagle	"	1.2.7, 1.2.9		PLAIN—Do. Black	"	3.0.0, 3.9.0		
8½ @ 8½ lbs.	"	1.1.6, 1.8.0		ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds.	"	2.5.0, 3.3.5		
D. Eagle X.X.	"	1.8.2, ...		Special Colors & Patterns ..	"	3.5.0, ...		
9 a 9½-lbs. nom.	"	1.7.5, 2.0.0		Metals and Sundries.				
9½ a 10-lbs.	"	1.9.0, 2.3.5		QUICKSILVER	nom. pr pol.	50.0.0, 51.0.0		
Dewhurst's, Best	"	2.4.0, 2.5.7½		TIN PLATES—14 x 10...pr box.	"	4.0.5, 4.1.0		
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—				T's. m. c.	Small	"		4.0.0, ...
40 yds. 36 in. 56 R. nom.:	pc.	1.2.1, 1.3.5	IRON WIRE—No. 11 pr pol.		"	4.1.0, ...		
60 reed	"	1.2.7, 1.4.0	12/16... ..		"	4.2.0, 4.4.0		
64	"	1.3.0, 1.6.5	17/23... ..		"	5.2.5, 5.5.0		
64 .., Best & 66 Reed ..	"	1.7.0, 1.9.0	STRAITS TIN, Fong Hing.		"	16.5.0, ...		
66 @ 80 reed.....	"	1.9.2½, 2.2.0	Fok Chok.		"	16.0.0, ...		
Best.....	"	2.2.0, 2.6.0	Common chops.		"	13.0.0, 16.0.0		
DRILLS, Am. 40 yd 30 in 15 lb.	"	2.6.5, 2.7.5	STEEL		pr tub.	3.6.0, ...		
English, 14 a 15-lbs.	"	1.7.7, 2.1.0	Bamboo		pr pol.	2.6.5, ...		
Do. Fine to Finest ..	"	2.2.0, 2.4.0	JAPAN COPPER, Finger... ..		"	16.6.0, ...		
Dutch, 13 a 14½-lbs.	"	2.1.0, 2.1.5	Slab, best.		"	16.6.0, ...		
JEANS, Dh., Best, 30 yd. 30 in. 8½ lbs.	"	2.0.0, 2.1.0	T's. m. c.	Ore	"	15.0.0, ...		
English .., 8 a 8½ lbs.	"	1.2.0, 1.8.5		HOOP IRON	"	2.8.5, ...		
American .., .. nom.	"	1.5.5, 2.3.0		FIG IRON	pr ton.	17.5.0, 19.0.0		
SHEETINGS—				NAILROD IRON—				
Amr., 40 yds. 36 a 38 in. 15 lbs.	"	2.7.0, 2.9.0		Dawes' Best	pr pol.	2.1.5, ...		
Eng., .., 14 a 16 lbs.	"	1.9.5, 2.1.0		H. Rogers, Sons & Co.	"	2.0.5, 2.1.0		
T-CLOTHS—				Belgian	"	1.6.0, 1.7.5		
6-lbs. 24 yds. 32 in. Ord... p.	pc.	0.7.7, 0.8.7½		M. M. Crown	"	2.0.0, 2.0.5		
7-lbs. 24 yds. 32 in. Ord...	"	0.8.8, 1.0.0		Bar—Dawes	"	2.3.5, ...		
6-lbs. Mex.	"	1.0.0, 1.5.0		Round	"	2.3.0, 2.3.5		
7-lbs.	"	1.3.2, 1.6.5		LEAD—L. B. nom. pc.	"	5.2.0, 5.1.5		
8 to 8½-lbs.	"	1.7.0, 1.9.0		Common Brands ..	"	5.1.5, ...		
Better kinds and XX ..	"	1.7.0, 1.9.0		COTTON, Common, New... ..	"	10.0.0, 10.6.0		
HANDKERCHIEFS—			T's. m. c.	Medium	"	11.0.0, 11.4.0		
Blue 28 a 31 in.	pc.	0.4.0, 0.5.4		New Best.....	"	11.5.0, 11.8.0		
Brown.....	"	0.4.0, 0.4.2		SUGAR -				
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS White	pc.	1.6.0, 1.7.5		White, Swatow, No. 1 ..	"	6.0.0, 6.5.0		
Dyed.	"	2.0.0, 2.3.0		" 2 ..	"	5.2.0, 5.6.0		
BROCADES—White, 40 yds.	"	1.7.0, 1.9.0		" 3 ..	"	4.8.0, 5.2.0		
Dyed.....	"	2.5.0, 2.7.0		Canton, " 1 ..	"	5.4.0, 5.8.0		
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ...	"	3.6.0, 4.5.0		" 2 ..	"	4.6.0, 5.0.0		
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS	"	2.0.0, 2.4.5		" 3 ..	"	3.8.0, 4.2.0		
CHINTZ—Assorted .. nom.	"	1.2.0, 1.4.0		Brown, Swatow, Best ..	"	2.0.0, 2.4.0		
Blue	"	1.1.2, 1.1.7	T's. m. c.	Common ..	"	2.4.0, 2.8.0		
Brown .. nom.	"	1.1.2, 1.1.7		" Canton	"	2.8.0, 3.2.0		
Scarlet	"	1.4.0, 1.6.5		" Common ..	"	2.0.0, 2.4.0		
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds.	"	1.4.0, 2.2.0		PEPPER—Black	"	6.1.0, ...		
50/52 ..	"	3.6.0, 4.2.0		White	"	12.0.0, 12.5.0		
Best... ..	"	4.2.0, 4.6.5		RATTANS—Common	"	2.8.0, 3.2.0		
T. REDS, 24 yd. 2 a 3 lb. 32 in. nom.	"	0.9.5, 1.8.0		Good to fine... ..	"	3.5.0, 4.0.0		
Best.....	"	0.9.5, 1.8.0		Best.....	"	5.0.0, 5.5.0		
VELVETS—Black, 22 in.	yd.	0.1.4, 0.1.7½		SAPAN WOOD—				
VELVETENS—Black, 18 in.	"	0.1.2, 0.1.4½		3 pieces to the picul. pc.	"	2.8.0 to 3.0.0		
26 in.	"	0.1.8, 0.1.9½		5 " " " & inf. "	"	1.8.0, 2.4.0		
BLUE DENIMS	"	0.0.3, 0.0.5	T's. m. c.	SANDALWOOD, South Sea ..	"	3.4.0, 3.5.0		
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in.	pc.	1.1.5, 1.2.0		Timor ..	"	9.0.0, 10.0.0		
41 in.	"	1.4.0, 1.5.0		Malabar.. ..	"	16.5.0, 18.0.0		
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nom.	"	0.6.0, 0.7.0		MANGROVE BARK	"	0.8.0, 1.3.0		
YARN—COTTON—Nos. 28 a 32	63.0.0, 80.0.0			FLINT STONES	"	0.4.5, ...		
CAMLETS, English, S S nom.	"	10.8.0, 12.0.0		COALS, Cliff (to arrive) +...	"	8.0.0, ...		
GG ..	"	11.9.0, ...		American	"	8.2.5, ...		
SSG ..	"	12.0.0, ...		Sydney (Bull)	"	7.5.0, ...		
Dutch.....	Tls.	19.0.0, 20.5.0		Newcastle, N.S.W.	"	7.5.0, ...		
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS	yd.	0.7.0, 1.4.0		Takasima (large)... ..	"	6.5.0, ...		
SPANISH STRIPES	"	0.4.8, 0.5.1	T's. m. c.	(dust)....	"	5.2.5, ...		
" T.T.B.	"	0.5.4, ...		Japan	"	4.4.0, 5.0.0		
" H.H.	"	0.5.4, 0.5.6		Formosa ..	"	5.5.0, ...		
LONG ELLS—				WINDOW GLASS—				
Scarlet, 24 yrd. H.H.	pc.	6.5.0, ...		Large	pr box.	2.9.0, ...		
" CPH	"	6.4.2, ...		Small	"	2.4.5, 2.7.0		
" U U	"	6.3.7½, ...						
" V	"	6.2.0, ...						
Assorted, H H Noml.	"	6.4.0, 6.9.0						
" CPH	"	6.8.0, 6.9.0						
" GG	"	6.8.0, 6.9.0						
" U U	"	6.1.0, 6.5.0						
" V	"	6.1.0, 6.5.0						

* Haikwan Sycee Tls. 100=Shanghai Currency Tls. 111.40. + Cargo quotations.

FREIGHTS.—Maharajah, British steamer, 994 tons, Shanghai to Taku, \$0.25 per picul; Corina, British barque, 820 tons, Nagasaki and back, 24 lay days, \$2.50 per ton coal; Supreme, British barque, 730 tons, Nagasaki and back, 24 lay days, \$2.150, in full; Antioch, American barque, 648 tons, Nagasaki and back, 20 lay days, \$1,800, in full; Nouveau Mondelli, French barque, 392 tons, Nagasaki and back, 16 lay days, \$2.25 per ton coal; Lulu, British barque, 360 tons, Nagasaki to Shanghai, 16 lay days, \$2.25 per ton coal; Vesta, American barque, 300 tons, Keelung to Shanghai, 16 lay days, \$2.00 per ton coal.

METALS.—There has been a trifling business in Nail-Rod Iron and Lead, at Tls. 2.05 per picul for Rodgers' Brand of the former, and Tls. 5.20 per picul for L.B. of the latter. The closing cash price for L.B. Lead is nominally Tls. 5.17½ a 5.15 per picul, and no enquiry. All other Metals are quiet and nominal at quotations.

COTTON.—The fall in value has commenced, but buyers look for further concessions before business on any scale takes place. At present, Hongkong and the southern ports are the only marts for which there have been any settlements. The supply from the country is still in excess of requirements.

EXCHANGE.—Sterling rates were very firm during the early part of the week under review, but, latterly, there has been keen competition amongst the Banks for the small amount of Private Bills offering, resulting in a decline of 3d. a 3d. On India, rates have gone in favor of buyers. On Hongkong, quotations are unaltered.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 26th November, 1877, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 269 to 274, both Nos. inclusive.

Goods.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATION.													
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Choofoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Higo.	Yokohama.
Grey Shirtings	4,070	...	5,200	350	820	5,100	4,250	24,610	...	200	...	...	1,300	...
T-Cloths	640	...	3,300	50	550	1,320	7,023	25,950	...	50	...	...	...	1,800
White Shirtings	650	...	450	...	...	250	...	10,029	...	...	489	...	100	...
Drills, English	310	...	660	50	150	720	380	4,360	...	200	...	300	...	...
Do., American	225	...	105	15	...	...	1,575	2,775	...	30	...	...	...	...
Jeans, English	970	...	100	...	50	...	100	2,810	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do., American	20	...	...	...	...	20	60	280	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheetings, English	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do., American	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,280	5,250	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings	...	...	...	...	...	...	350	649	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, White	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do., Dyed	...	...	...	...	50	...	200	75	...	...	...	...	...	...
Damasks, Dyed	...	...	...	...	...	122	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes	...	...	340	...	50	265	600	850	...	...	...	...	...	...
Turkey Red Shirtings	...	...	150	...	...	200	919	2,009	...	...	...	300	100	...
Velvets	74	...	48	24	...	192	50	...	...	...	...	90	60	...
Velveteens	...	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Handkerchiefs	400	...	800	200	600	1,200	200	200	...	...	40	...	...	...
Muslins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	400	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dimities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes	102	...	90	...	12	90	24	216	...	54	...	...	...	...
Medium and Broad Cloths	58	...	78	6	24	252	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Camlets	...	...	30	50	200	710	...	80	...	60	10	30	80	...
Long Ells	20	...	240	40	180	940	20	20	...	20	3,810	...	...	...
Lastings	60	...	20	...	100	320	60	240	...	...	...	80	40	...
Crape Lastings	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Lustres, Plain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...	...	...
Do., Figured	350	...	118	...	...	780	720	420	...	...	120	...	...	...
Do., Crape	...	...	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	630	...	381	...	...	270	1,470	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	DELIVERIES.		IMPORTS.		STOCKS AT DATE, BASED ON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS DATED 1ST JAN., 1877.		
	For the week.	For Year From 1st Jan. 1877.	For the week.	For Year from 1st Jan. 1877.	*At date Estimated.	†	Against 27th Nov., 1876.
Grey Shirtings	52,900	4,004,202	144,640	4,606,632	1,440,100	257,800	820,200
T-Cloths	46,685	2,146,540	113,079	2,401,169	756,500	334,000	726,700
White Shirtings	12,868	539,173	34,036	630,647	194,900	31,500	125,400
Drills, English	7,730	674,274	38,070	597,070	?	83,700	?
Do., American	4,785	227,314	4,500	227,264	1,300	...	155,500
Jeans, English	4,120	227,357	8,890	305,476	115,500	...	...
Do., American	380	31,780	...	36,440	4,900	...	18,900
Sheetings, English	1,200	34,556	4,162	40,612	2,800	13,100	...
Do., American and Continentals	6,570	194,578	9,450	229,221	44,800	...	32,000
Dyed Shirtings	999	19,197	2,368	15,167	?	200	3,000
Brocades and Spotted Shirtings, White	50	6,393	2,093	5,090	5,900	...	2,500
Do., Dyed	425	29,273	3,000	32,890	6,000	...	?
Damasks, Dyed	122	12,185	800	15,434	4,000	...	?
Chintzes	2,785	116,692	9,386	133,470	40,600	...	24,100
Turkey Red Shirtings	3,778	117,836	2,200	97,795	34,400	1,400	56,100
Velvets	628	51,856	3,314	54,683	4,600	...	?
Velveteens	130	10,564	657	12,033	3,400	...	8,500
Handkerchiefs	5,400	242,060	49,663	510,200	274,900	15,700	13,900
Muslins	400	28,450	465	30,984	4,800	3,800	4,500
Dimities	...	11,452	16	5,549	4,600	...	6,700
Spanish Stripes	804	42,311	2,706	42,004	4,700	...	2,600
Medium and Broad Cloths	748	29,266	181	29,588	15,400	5,700	19,500
Camlets	1,350	78,978	3,030	81,417	9,300	900	3,700
Long Ells	5,350	86,733	2,840	87,360	5,500	3,600	12,600
Lastings	960	40,716	3,360	55,110	16,600	4,500	8,400
Crape Lastings	60	4,789	200	5,070	200	4,800	5,100
Lustres, Plain	200	15,485	...	11,197	2,000	1,200	8,400
Do., Figured	2,988	124,267	4,420	139,809	26,400	...	1,400
Do., Crape	200	9,090	999	11,425	4,700	...	?
Lead in Pigs	...	85,634	6,261	118,077	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	2,751	98,747	10,749	254,766	...	...	...

* Exclusive of Import Cargoes ex *Zambesi, Fleurs Castle, Priam, Anadyr, Glenlyon, City of Limerick, Gwalior, Golden State, Leander, Diomed, Peiho, Thibet, Sarpedon*, several *Coasters*, and of sundry Re-exports.

EXPORTS.

SILK.—Business in silk was very active for the last French mail, low classed Tsatlees up to No. 4 being chiefly in demand at Tls. 10 a 15 per picul advance. Amongst the purchases were

Dragon Chop, No. 3	Tls. 430	= 20 1/2
Cock and Worm Chop, Nos. 3 1/2 and 4 ..	Tls. 425 and 410	= 20 0 and 19 1/2
Dancing Bear, No. 2	Tls. 417 1/2	= 19 1/2
Blue Elephant	Tls. 420	= 19 1/2
Yellow and Green Elephant	Tls. 405 and 390	= 19 0 and 18 1/4
Pagoda, Nos. 2 and 3	Tls. 422 1/2 and 402 1/2	= 19 10 and 18 11
Buffalo, Nos. 2 and 3	Tls. 415 and 400	= 19 6 and 18 10
Ting-chau-kee's "Van-yuen"	Tls. 395	= 18 7
Siebing's "Quong-fong"	Tls. 395	= 18 7
Common @ No. 5 Tsatlees	Tls. 395 a 390	= 17 2 a 18 1/4

For the out-going mail about 1,500 bales have changed, hands making 4,000 settled for the fortnight:—Hangchow Tsatlees at Tls. 340 a 375, and Kahings at Tls. 360 a 395 have met with good enquiry; and a moderate business has taken place in skeins at Tls. 235 a 245, and 9x12-moss at Tls. 240 a 255 per picul.

The comparative cheapness of re-reels has brought speculators into the market to the extent of about 100 bales. Re-reeled Tatlees have hardly ever shown such comparatively good value, and in addition the present low prices have stopped the manufacture, it is said, of these particular classes.

This week's settlements include—

Donkey Chop, No. 4 and 4½	Tls. 415, and 400	5/8 @ 12 %
Blue Elephant	Tls. 420	=19/8 and 18/10
"May-fong" Elephant	Tls. 420	=19/9
Gold Lion No. 4	Tls. 422½	=19/9
Blue Peacock "Tun-ling"	Tls. 420	=19/10
Black Lion No. 3	Tls. 420	=19/9
Bird chop "Kin-hock" and "Fung-ling"	Tls. 415 and 405	=19/8 and 19/1
Gold Stork	Tls. 407½	=19/3
S.S.S. "Kin-ling"	Tls. 415	=19/1
Ruke's "Kin-ling"	Tls. 405	=19/1
Double Deer "Sze-loh"	Tls. 397½	=18/8
Common Tatlees	Tls. 370	=17/5

Best chops continue weak, and yesterday's political news from France is likely to influence the market generally that way, with arrivals expected shortly on a more liberal scale. By the s.s. "Saikio Maru" there were shipped 182 bales of re-reels for America as noted below; prices being Tls. 375 a 420 for common to fair cargo. The unsold stock is about 16,500 bales.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

NOVEMBER 29, 1877.

ARRIVALS.—(Not reported above)—None other than coasters.

DEPARTURE.—(Not reported above)—November 24th, British steamer *Diomed*, for London.

The English mail steamer *Gwalior* takes about 1,800 bales of SILK, and about 300 tons of TMA.

EXCHANGE.—On London, Telegraphic Transfers, 5s. 3½d. Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 5½d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 5½d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 5½d. On Paris, Bank, 6.85; Private, 6.92½. On India—Bombay Bank, Rs. 308 a 309. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 308 a 309. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27½ per cent. disc. Private, 15 days' sight, 28. Bullion. Gold Bars, Pekin, Shanghai Tls. 181 per bar of 10 Tls. Shanghai weight. Bar Silver, Shanghai Tls. 111.20 per 100 Tls. Canton weight. Mexican dollars, Shanghai Tls. 73.20 per 100. Carolus, Shanghai Tls. 86 per 100. Copper Cash, 1,445 per tael.

SHARES.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report to-day as follows:—

H. & S. Bank.—Business has been rather brisker in this stock, at lower rates, caused, in some measure, by tightness of money, and by the delivery, for cash, of shares supposed to be sold short for delivery on the 31st December. On the 23rd a number of shares were sold at 56 % premium, exchange 72½ (=£141.86), and £142, for cash. The market was then quiet for some days, with shares offering at 55 %, and exchange 73, until yesterday, when a demand sprung up, and shares were bought at that rate, for cash, and at 56 % and exchange 73, for 31st December.

S. S. N. Co.—A fair business has been done at £26½.

Yangtze Insurance Association.—A large lot was sold at £625, at which the market closes firm, with buyers.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.—A lot was sold at \$677½. There are buyers at \$680.

China Fire Insurance Co.—A few shares have changed hands at \$175. They are offering at this rate.

S. & H. Wharf Co.—A number have been sold at £108, at which there are still buyers.

WEATHER.—The weather has again been variable, fine or rainy accordingly as the wind has varied to the westward or eastward. To-day, it is raining. The thermometer has ranged from 40 to 58.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	
<i>Bank.</i>									
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	40,000	\$125	\$125	\$650,000.00	\$14,027.45	30 June 77	* 21	22 Aug. 77	55 % prem., ex. 73, 56 %, for 31st Dec.
<i>Steamer Companies.</i>									
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co. (in Liquidation)	22,500	£100	£30	£615,902.35	.....	30 Dec. 76	Return of £7.70 on capital.	26 Mar. 77	26½
China Coast Steam Navigation Co.	5,000	£100	£100	£62,522.10	£41,153.60	30 Dec. 76	* 2½ %	7 Jan. 76	74
<i>Docks.</i>									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	£7,183.54	.....	30 Dec. 76	* 2 %	7 July 77	225
Pootung Dock Co.	950	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	* 5 %	1 July 77	88
<i>Gas.</i>									
Shanghai Gas Co.	1,500	£100	£100	£6,523.81	£8,917.74	31 Dec. 76	* 5 %	10 July 77	147
Compagnie du Gaz	1,000	£50	£50	£2,171.31	£2,333.25	30 Dec. 76	* 5 %	31 Aug. 77	71
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited	200	\$5,000	\$1,500	\$125,000.00	\$85,073.06	30 Apl. 77	12 %	31 July 77	2,900
North-China Insurance Co., 1875/77	1,000	£2,000	£600	£257,900.42	£649,980.44	30 June 77	£70 p. share	9 July 77	860 nominal.
Union In. Society of Canton	500	\$2,500	\$500	\$210,500.00	\$119,008.38	31 Dec. 76	.....	.....	1,100
Yangtze Insurance Association	1,200	£350	£350	£240,000.00	.....	30 Sep. 76	* 7½ %	12 July 77	625
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	\$1,000	\$200	\$62,507.60	\$60,969.24	30 Dec. 76	* 6 %	1 Jan. 77	250
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>									
Hongkong Fire In. Co., Limited	2,000	\$1,000	\$200	\$564,202.00	\$244,445.07	30 Dec. 76	+ \$47.50 p. sh.	20 Feb. 77	680
China Fire In. Co., Limited	4,000	\$500	\$100	\$339,787.30	\$96,304.86	30 Dec. 76	+ 12 %	30 Dec. 76	175
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,150	£100	£100	.....	£1,878.61	30 Dec. 76	* 4 %	15 Aug. 77	108
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	900	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nominal.

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Nominal Value of Bonds or Debentrs.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1872	£ 28,700.00	£ 100.00	8 %	30th April & 31st Oct.	104 Nominal.
Do. 1873	£ 21,000.00	£ 100.00	"	30th June & 31st Dec.	100 "
Do. 1875	£ 42,800.00	£ 100.00	"	30th June & 31st Dec.	105 "
Lyceum Theatre Ordinary Debentures.	£ 17,000.00	£ 25.00	"	30th June.	18 "
Do. Preference do.	£ 5,362.50	£ 37.50	5 %	31st Dec.	20 "
Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1874	£ 627,615	£ 100	8 %	30th June & 31st Dec.	£104 "

* For half-year.

† For year.